FBIS DAILY REPORT

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Vol III No 010 15 January 1987

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GENEVA TALKS OPEN; TASS QUOTES VORONTSOV

LD151243 Moscow TASS in English 1241 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Geneva January 15 TASS -- The seventh round of the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space arms began here today with a meeting between the delegation leaders.

The Soviet delegation is headed by Yuliy Vorontsov, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and the U.S. by one Max Kampelman, special counsellor to the U.S. secretary of state.

In an interview with a TASS correspondent, the leader of the Soviet delegation has said that the Soviet side sees the principal task of the new round to secure progress in a practical solution to the entire range of the issues of nuclear and space arms through the joint efforts of the two delegations on the basis and in development of the understandings on that score, which were revealed as a result of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Reykjavik.

"Considering particular importance and topicality of this task, the Soviet delegation will seek to take the talks out to the road of concrete, constructive work".

"We count on reciprocity on the part of the U.S. delegation in this respect".

REAGAN MESSAGE TO SENATE REJECTS TEST BAN

LD141712 Moscow TASS in English 1636 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 14 TASS -- TASS military writer Vladimir Bogachev comments:

U.S. President Ronald Reagan has sent a message to the Senate in which he expresses the readiness of the U.S. Administration to give its consent to the ratification of the 1974 Soviet-U.S. treaty on the limitation of underground nuclear weapon tests and the 1976 treaty on underground nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes.

Noteworthy is the fact that this decision by the U.S. Administration, made 10 to 12 years late, is accompanied with Washington's refusal to start without delay negotiations on a total and universal ban on nuclear weapon tests, and ending nuclear testing itself is classifed once again among the category of U.S. "long-term objectives."

In his messsage to the Senate Reagan contends as before that ending nuclear testing by the United States will be possible only when the need to depend on nuclear weapons in ensuring deterrence is obviated.

The conclusion prompts itself that this move by the Reagan administration, which was made in conditions when the Soviet moratorium on any nuclear explosions is in effect, is a new manoeuvre by Washington with an eye to dampening the world public protests against the U.S. obstructionist stand on the issue of a total ban on nuclear testing.

The U.S. press indicates that the administration's decision on the transfer of the two treaties for ratification is part of the deal planned between the White House and Congress.

According to the newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST, the administration agrees to make these treaties a priority item on the agenda in exchange for the promise by the joint House-Senate conference committee to block the adoption by Congress of an amendment banning the United States from conducting nuclear tests.

A demand is set in the President's message as an indispensable condition to the ratification of the treaties that the Soviet Union accept U.S. terms for their verification. It is not excluded that the White House, once it wins Congress' consent to conducting nuclear tests, will scuttle the idea of ratification under the old threadbare pretext that verification techniques are "inadequate".

One should not forget that Washington has lately rejected equally lightly Soviet proposals providing for on-site inspection and initiatives by non-aligned states on verification measures with the use of international inspections.

The Soviet Union has a no less stake in establishing a reliable control over compliance with agreements than the United States. Soviet leaders stated on more than one occasion that verification of compliance with agreements is not a problem with the USSR, that the Soviet side is prepared to take sweeping verification measures, among them on-site inspections in case of need.

However, the most elaborate and reliable verification measures, likewise measures for disarmament, should be mutual and here the Soviet Union does not get a corresponding response from the U.S side, which has recently paid lip service to the most strict verification procedures. In any case, the tactics employed by Washington to thwart a reply visit to the United States by Soviet scientists to take part in monitoring U.S. explosions in the area of the tests does not give ground for optimism.

ENVOY TO U.S. ON APPROACH TO DISARMAMENT

LD142154 Moscow TASS in English 2133 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Washington, January 15 TASS -- The USSR's approach to the solution of disarmament problems is all-embracing, and it is fully determined to continue persistently the implementation of its chief goal, that of establishing a nuclear-free world.

This idea has been emphasized by Yuriy Dubinin, Soviet ambassador to the United States, at a press conference here.

The press conference was devoted to the results of 1986, proclaimed International Year of Peace by the United Nations. The Soviet Union's activity on tackling the most acute problems of the current period was described.

"It is symbolic," Dubinin said, "that talks on nuclear and space arms are resumed in Geneva on January 15 this year, the first anniversary for the proclamation of the USSR'S large-scale programme for nuclear disarmament."

"We attach immense importance to the forthcoming seventh round of negotiations and are convinced that it can become a turning point in the work of the delegations from the two countries and launch practical preparations for the conclusion of the complex of agreements to comprise and build on the positive results of Reykjavik.

That will require the political will and readiness of both countries. The Soviet Union has already demonstrated them."

PETROVSKIY PRAISES DISARMAMENT PLAN

LD150019 Moscow TASS in English 2344 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 15 TASS -- The USSR's comprehensive programme of security through disarmament, set out in Mikhail Gorbachev's January 15, 1986 statement, is now operating as a real factor of world politics, V. Petrovskiy pointed out in the latest edition of the journal WORLD ECONOMICS AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

"The point at issue is the concentrated manifestation of the new way of political thinking that is being asserted in international politics."

"In practice, the Soviet security through disarmament programme advanced by the Soviet Union on January 15, 1986 proposes: scrapping all weapons of mass annihilation, ensuring that outer space remain peaceful, reducing considerably the armed forces and conventional armaments and restructing the military potentials of states within sensible limits."

"The core of the programme is the plan to rid the world of nuclear weapons already in this century given the effective ban on strike space weapons.

Its fundamental novelty is that it not only sets out the ultimate objective, but enumerates practical disarmament measures -- to follow a fixed time-table and be carried out within a historically brief period.

The security interests of all are taken into account with no damage meant for any one.

Naturally, the edifice of universal security should rest on the military, political, economic and humanitarian foundations.

The question is not what should come first -- disarmament or trust, the reduction of arsenals or the settlement of regional conflicts.

It is possible and necessary to move towards security simultaneously from all directions by multiplying efforts in all the spheres."

KARPOV WRITES ON 'NUCLEAR-FREE WORLD'

AU122042 Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 9 Jan 87 pp 1, 4

[Article specially dispatched through the NOVOSTI news agency for the daily NARODNA ARMIYA, by Viktor Karpov, head of the USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry administration on problems of limitation of armaments and on disarmament and leader of the Soviet delegation to the Geneva negotiations on nuclear and space weapons; entitled: "Breakthrough Toward a Nuclear-free World"]

[Text] The Reykjavik agreements could have opened opportunities for rescue from nuclear weapons, were it not for the stubbornness of the American side. Soviet as well and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe could have been eliminated; in the long run shorter range weapons could also have been eliminated, while U.S. and Soviet offensive strategic weapons could have been reduced by 50 percent within the next 5 years, and fully eliminated by 1996.

The limiting of U.S. and USSR strategic offensive weapons should at the same time obviously have opened the path toward the nuclear disarmament process being joined by other nuclear states, including France and the UK. Naturally, this would have meant direct progress toward a Europe free of nuclear weapons.

Unfortunately none of this happened because of the position adopted by Washington. The strange factor in all this, however, is that certain leading European political figures were frightened by the prospect, and acted dynamically to prevent this opportunity for Europe's nuclear disarmament. There is no other way of interpreting the statement that a 50-percent limitation on offensive strategic armaments is dangerous for the future of Western strategy, and that such a limit threatens to undermine the unity of the NATO member-countries and their security.

A rather strange metamorphosis also affected the question of medium-range missiles deployed in Europe. The European leaders used to assure us in the past that they are supporters of the "zero option", namely, that they are ready to agree to the full elimination of American and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe. Today they are obviously frightened by the prospect of the elimination of medium-range missiles opened at the Reykjavik negotiations, since they concoct additional obstacles along the path of implementing this decision. It is by no means accidental that other questions are being raised today on a priority basis, questions which have no direct connection with medium-range missiles.

Nevertheless, there are convincing answers to such questions as well. They are contained in the Soviet Nuclear Disarmament Program which envisages a full and comprehensive elimination of tactical nuclear arms. The Soviet Union proposes to settle this question as well. However, as the saying goes, there is a time for everything.

Let us not forget the fact that it is not a question of the small nuclear resources belonging to the UK and France remaining on European territory but the continued stationing of forward based U.S. nuclear weapons. They will be preserved for a certain time -- and perhaps for a more prolonged period -- following the elimination of U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe. Therefore, it is absolutely meaningless to talk about NATO allegedly being defenseless as a result of the elimination of USSR and U.S. medium-range missiles.

As to conventional weapons, the Soviet Union is ready for negotiations about drastic limitations of these armaments throughout the entire territory of Europe, from the Atlantic to the Urals. We do not pose any preliminary conditions for this, whereas NATO, under different pretexts, is avoiding such negotiations. It is even trying to invent arguments about the alleged superiority of the Warsaw Pact member-countries in conventional weapons to sabotage nuclear disarmament in Europe.

Other attempts are also made to cast a shadow upon Reykjavik. People say the Soviet Union allegedly claims everything or nothing, and is unwilling to make any concessions whatsoever, being aware of the U.S. stand on SDI. This is by no means true. The Soviet Union does not ask anything from the United States but that it fulfill the statement made by the American side on the highest level. The official American stand claims that SDI is nothing but a research project. What is the proposal of the Soviet Union in this respect? It is precisely the proposal that the United States should restrict itself to laboratory tests within the next 10 years, and not perform any tests in space.

If the declaration made by the U.S. President and by other officials corresponds to reality, then there are no obstacles to the acceptance of the Soviet proposals.

However, the U.S. officials, as the saying goes, say something and have something else in mind in their striving to preserve the opportunity of fully implementing their SDI program, including the 10-year period in question, during which the program for the elimination of offensive, strategic weapons could be implemented.

Reykjavik represents a real breakthrough toward a nuclear-free world, a breakthrough toward a drastic increase in European security and, last but not least, a breakthrough toward excluding the opportunity or a nuclear or conventional war being unleashed on the European continent.

GEN YASHIN DISUSSES STRATEGIC BALANCE, SDI

PM121409 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 3

[Interview with Colonel General Yu.A. Yashin, first deputy commander in chief of Strategic Mssile Forces, by correspondent V. Lukashin: "Who Threatens Peace"; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Excerpts] The world's progressive public supports the Soviet stand on the question of nuclear weapons tests formulated in the replies of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the questions put by the American journalist J. Kingsbury-Smith. The program advanced by our country for the total elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of the present century has elicited warm approval from mankind. It is only the official U.S. Administration that is still trying to intimidate the world with the "Soviet nuclear threat." Washington's policy remains unchanged in the new year too. This was the subject of Colonel General Yu.A. Yashin's conversation with IZVESTIYA's correspondent. [passage omitted]

[Lukashin] What constitutes the Soviet Union's missile arsenal?

[Yashin] Our missile arsenal includes a wide range of types of missiles capable of hitting enemy targets on land, at sea, and in the air. Combat missiles are divided up into classes depending on the launch site and the target location: "surface to surface," "surface to air," "surface to ship," and so forth. According to the nature of the tasks to be resovled, they are divided into strategic, operational-tactical, and tactical missiles. Strategic missiles are subdivided into ICBM's and medium-range missiles.

Modern strategic missile complexes and their automated control systems ensure very high readiness to inflict a counterstrike. Regardless of weather conditions and time of year or day, they are capable of launching missiles over virtually unlimited distances with the necessary strike accuracy. Soviet strategic missiles are capable of overcoming an enemy ABM system and maintain their combat qualities under the impact of the harmful factors of a nuclear explosion. If we speak of our motherland's strategic nuclear arsenal as a whole, then, as is known, the USSR had a total of 2,504 delivery vehicles at the time the SALT II treaty was signed; that number has not increased by a single unit today.

Nevertheless, Washington does not tire of claiming that the United States is lagging behind the Soviet Union in strategic forces, since, it says, ground-based ICBM's account for approximately 70 percent of the warheads in the Soviet Union, but approximately 20 percent in the United States. [paragraph continues]

This does not upset the balance of the sides' strategic potentials. There is cunning in the fact that Washington deliberately remains quiet concerning the fact that more than 80 percent of U.S. warheads are deployed on SLBM's and on heavy bombers. This is several times more than on Soviet analogues. The Pentagon needs a deliberate fabrication to secure one-sided advantages. But the schemes for military superiority are not fated to be realized. "The Soviet Union does not aspire to greater security and will not agree to less," M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, declared from the rostrum of the 27th party congress.

[Lukashin] Please speak about the U.S. strategic missile forces.

[Yashin] In accordance with Pentagon terminology, they are called strategic offensive forces and embrace the triad of ground-based ICBM forces, sea-based missile forces, and strategic air forces. The combat strength of the ICBM forces includes more than 1,000 Minuteman II, Minuteman III, Titan II, and MX launchers capable of delivering more than 2,000 nuclear warheads onto the Soviet Union's territory from the North American Continent at one time. The sea-based missile forces' combat strength includes 672 Trident I, Poseidon C-3, and Polaris A-3 launchers deployed on 38 nuclear-powered submarines. They contain approximately 50 percent of all the strategic ammunition. The strategic air forces' combat strength includes approximately 600 heavy bombers. Medium-range nuclear arms, including the 108 Pershing II missiles and 256 ground-based cruise missiles deployed in the FRG, Britain, Italy, and Belgium, as well as many thousands of American forward-based nuclear weapon carriers, constitute an important addition.

The American triad is already capable of delivering to USSR territory more than 12,000 pieces of nuclear ammunition with a yield of between 50 kilotons and 10 megatons each. Nevertheless, the U.S. military-political leadership is planning to increase the combat potential of the ground- and sea-based missile forces, as well as the strategic air force, by 50-150 percent by 1990. Fulfillment of the strategic program is being greatly accelerated. Nuclear explosions are rumbling in Nevada in response to the silence of the Soviet nuclear test site.

[Lukashin] Much is being said and written in the West to the effect that SDI is America's sole salvation from the "Soviet nuclear threat." What can you say about this?

[Yashin] Our leadership has already repeatedly evaluated SDI as a further attempt by the United States to secure military superiority over the USSR.

In point of fact, American imperialism is planning to create a forward-based strike echelon of strategic offensive forces in space. This echelon can be brought as close as possible to strategic targets on the Soviet Union's territory and will be capable of ensuring the minimum flight time in comparison with the other components of the strategic offensive forces. Thus, a new sphere of war has been chosen -- space. In a military respect, posing a direct threat of warfare in space and from space, SDI harbors additional calamities for the entire world community. What is dangerous is not just the unpredictability of the development [razvitiye] of the latest types of weapons but also the lack of any guarantees of comprehensive control of those arms.

Their deployment in space will give rise to the natural need to create [sozdaniye] means of combating them -- which inevitably turns the SDI program into a "Star Wars" program. The latter means the chance of war being unleashed from space is increasingly out of man's control. [paragraph continues]

Thus, from the military aspect SDI is nothing but a disguised attempt to sharply increase the U.S. strategic offensive forces' potential for inflicting a surprise preemptive nuclear strike, upsetting the existing military-strategic equilibrium, and securing one-sided superiority. From the political aspect it violates the ABM Treaty and creates conditions for an irrestible temptation to unleash and win a war. Of course, we take all this into account.

Our country has extensive oapportunities for countering SDI with asymmetrical measures. So SDI will not enhance America's security. The package of large-scale proposals for the radical reduction and then elimination of nuclear weapons expounded by M.S. Gorbachev in Reykjavik provides a radical solution to the problem of ensuring equal security.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA VIEWS U.S. ASAT PROGRAM

PM141419 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Jan 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Pentagon's Space Ambitions"]

[Text] New York, 10 Jan -- The U.S. Department of the Air Force has asked Congress for permission to hold three test firings of antisatellite missiles against a real target in space at the end of this year. These tests, THE NEW YORK TIMES reports, are to open the final phase in the Pentagon's creation [sozdaniye] of a modern ASAT system which is intended to provide the United States with optimum conditions for inflicting a first nuclear strike.

The main components of the ASAT system, on whose creation [sozdaniye] the Pentagon is currently focusing, are speciaal missiles designed to destroy communications and early warning satellites, and F-15 fighters. In the very near future Washington plans to set up two squadrons of these planes equipped with antisatellite weapons and deploy them on the east and west coasts of the United States.

Tests of the new system are currently in full swing. Thus, last year the U.S. military department twice held experimental launches of antisatellite missiles, aiming them at the light of a distant star. IN 1985 there were firings against a real target in space -- an obsolete satellite. The Reagan administration's program in this sphere is no less crowded in the near guture. In fiscal 1988 and 1989 alone, THE NEW YORK TIMES attests, the Pentagon intends to spend over 1.1 billion dollars on the creation [sozdaniye] of an ASAT system.

Many scientists and military experts view these Washington plans as extremely destabilizing. They are noting that a U.S. ability to destroy early warning satellites would inevitably tempt Washington to launch a surprise first nuclear strike and lead to an intensification of international tension.

On the basis of these very ideas, Congress forbade the Reagan administration to test an ASAT system against a real target in space in the current fiscal 1987. However, the Pentagon believes it will be able to obtain permission to carry out the tests when the fiscal year ends on 30 September.

PAPERS MARK ANNIVERSARY OF GORBACHEV STATEMENT

PM141335 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 January 1987 Morning Edition carries on page 5 under the general headline "Year of Peace" a full-page feature marking the first anniversary of M.S. Gorbachev's 15 January 1986 statement on nuclear disarmament. The features includes two chronicles of actions by the Soviet Union and the United States in 1986, contrasting the Soviet actions for disarmament with U.S. efforts to improve its weaponry, and a 2,000-word article entitled "Path to Mankind's Survival" by Gennadiy Gerasimov, who discusses and dismisses the arguments put forward in defense of the retention of nuclear weapons. He notes the case for the nuclear deterrent is based on a hypothesis "whose correctness its authors cannot prove." In theory, Gerasimov notes, the "hostile intentions" attributed by the West to the East are possible but are "in fact improbable" "unless you are paranoid." Gerasimov emphasizes the risk of relying on nuclear deterrence and the consequences of using nuclear weapons, in particular the notion of "nuclear winter" which he sees as the modern equivalent of the "doomsday machine." Gerasimov views nuclear weapons as "weapons of suicide" and argues that Gorbachev's 15 January statement "synchronizes thought and action" in the age of nuclear weapons, when "political thinking is lagging behind life."

The feature also includes an item headlined "Nonnuclear Status for the Whole World" consisting of short items from three leaders of nuclear-free zone local authorities in Japan, the FRG, and Britain, and an item under the general heading "We Believe in Common Sense" in which Eugene La Rocque, director of the Center for Defense Information, Professor Marini-Bettolo of Rome University, and Darbara Singh, Indian member of parliament and "prominent figure" in the Indian National Congress (I) Party, praise Gorbachev's statement.

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 14 January 1987 First Edition front-pages a 2,000-word article entitled "Stepping Back from the Nuclear Abyss" by Aleksandr Mozgovoy. The article is carried under the "Our Dialogue" rubric and contrasts the U.S. and USSR attitudes to arms reduction and disarmament in the year since Gorbachev's statement of 15 January 1986, asking "Why, indeed, does the U.S. Administration oppose common sense?" Mozgovoy sees the first anniversary of Gorbachev's statement "not as a jubilee but as the first step of the ascent toward a nuclear-free world. This path is difficult and tricky. But we have the will to move determindedly along it."

KOMMUNIST ON MEETING CONSUMER DEMAND IN CEMA

LD122023 Moscow TASS in English 1823 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 12 TASS -- At the stage of a transition to an intensification of production, the member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) have made a serious step in realisation of large-scale social programmes, in particular, those to raise incomes and to develop the branches of the consumer-oriented sector.

KOMMUNIST, theoretical and political journal of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, analysing the process, writes that the allocation of large resources for the social sphere has made it possible to achieve full satisfaction of the population's requirements for food and self-sufficiency in main food resources in many CMEA countries.

In the German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary, for example, meat consumption is at the level which conforms to the idea of rational diet normals (per capita meat consumption in the GDR is 96 kg a year, in Czechoslovakia -- 86 kg, and in Hungary -- 77 kg).

The journal points out at the same time that even with a sufficiently high level of food consumption, demand for it may grow if the market of non-food products remains narrow.

The article gives the example of Poland, where meat consumption level in 1975 amounted to 78 kg but the state of deficit was increasing. In other CMEA countries, a relative saturation of demand was observed with such a consumption level.

Population's requirements for light-industry products in most CMEA countries are being fully met but the problem of their quality still remains, KOMMUNIST goes on.

The refinement of the technological basis of this sector of the economy creates conditions for a solution to the problem.

CMEA countries now pay increased attention to steamlining the range of all goods. The policy of differentiated, flexible retail process is aimed at bringing the mass consumer within the reach of a wide range of up-to-date goods.

An increase in prices of indivdual goods are not viewed as a method to overcome the goods deficit, the journal emphasises. These measures are accompanied as a rule with broader supply of mass benefits and a flexible reorganisation of production with an eye to demand.

Official On Achievements, Lags

AU091240 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 31 Dec 86 p 5

[CTK report: "Evaluation of the Realization of the Comprehensive program"]

[Text] Moscow (CTK reporter) -- The Comprehensive Program of Scientific-Technical Progress of CEMA Member-Countries UP to the Year 2000, adopted last December [1985], laid the foundations of the fraternal states' joint efforts in resolving the key tasks connected with the development of science and technology.

In an interview given to CTK's Moscow correspondent, CEMA Deputy Secretary Ladislav Supka, noted in connection with the results of the annual realization of the Comprehensive Program that all CEMA member-countries have approached its fulfillment with maximum interest and responsibility.

An organizational system will be set up within the framework of the socialist community for directing the realization of the Comprehensive Program; the responsibility for the overall fulfillment of its tasks has mostly fallen on deputy premiers, and responsibility for the realization of individual priority trends to ministers and heads of the CEMA member-countries' central agencies. The CEMA agencies and the international organizations of CEMA countries participated to a considerable extent in the elaboration of organizational issues.

About 1,500 design, construction, research, and product associations are participating today in the realization of the Comprehensive Program; they represent the top scientific-technical potential of the socialist community. The experts of CEMA member-countries have already completed about 400 development projects connected with the tasks contained in the program; currently the results are being transferred to the production enterprises.

However, even despite such positive results, the member-countries have not succeeded in ensuring the fulfillment of all tasks within the set deadlines. The tasks are exacting and demand maximum attention from all interested states. This primarily applies to the elimination of certain organizational obstacles and the achievement of greater harmony in the work of a multitude of links and branches participating in the mutual cooperation, L. Supka added.

INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS, ANSWERS

LD100010 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 9 Jan 87

["International Situation: Questions and Answers" program presented by All-Union Radio foreign political commentator Andrey Ptashnikov with Vladimir N. Chernyshev, TASS military observer; Aleksey M. Vasilyev, doctor of historical science; and Viktor Levin, commentator]

[Excerpts] [Ptashnikov] First of all I would like to dwell on the letters from our listeners that voice righteous indignation over the aggressive militarist course of the U.S. Administration in the international arena. [Passage omitted on letters of named listeners cited on struggle for peace and U.S. insistence on SDI and Ptashnikov emphasizing that the United States is still testing nuclear weapons and breaching SALT II, and introducing Vladimir Nikolayevich Chernyshev]

[Chernyshev] The general secretary's statement propounded a specific and well-developed plan of purposeful action to remove the most serious threat looming over mankind today, the danger of nuclear war. [Passage omitted on details of Gorbachev's proposals of 15 January 1986]

[Ptashnikov] A year has already elapsed since this program was announced. The United States and its NATO allies, however, have undertaken no practical action in the way of movement toward a nuclear-free world. What is the efficacy of our program today?

[Chernyshev] Now that a year has passed, the grandeur and significance of the comprehensive Soviet plan can be been seen even more sharply and clearly. First of all, the whole world can now see that it presents a tangible strategy for movement toward a nuclear-free world, a strategy which makes it possible to clearly see the prospects and the final goal, and thus to manifest tactical flexibility along the path to that goal.

It is precisely the existence of this plan, drafted in detail, which made possible the breadth, scope, boldness, and constructive nature that characterized the actions of the Soviet representatives at the summit meeting in Reykjavik. Thanks to the Soviet proposals, and their convincing nature the sides found themselves close to adopting historic decisions. Unfortunately, the U.S. representatives lacked the courage, responsibility, and political resolve, and there was no success in sealing coordinated accords.

The barrier on the way to a nuclear-free world is the U.S. Star Wars program.

Nonetheless, the year that has elapsed since the announcement of the Soviet program has brought a great deal. Let us remember how some people in the West tried to present the Soviet program as a fantasy, an illusion, propaganda; tried to divide the world into the gullible and the sceptical. But now everything has changed. There has been a sharp change in man's thinking, in its view of what is possible and what is not, of what can be achieved and what cannot.

The planet has learned that the removal of the threat of nuclear destruction is something real, and it can now be said with assurance that the world has been divided, but not into the gullible and the sceptics, but into the supporters and opponents of nuclear disarmament. The overwhelming majority of the population of our planet, having recognized that there is a real opportunity to destroy the nuclear sword which threatens the very existence of civilization, supports the Soviet program and demands that it be implemented.

Thus, in my view, the main achievement of the past year is that at last the world has come to believe this, and believe it seriously; and once the belief is there, the forces rising to struggle against the arms race, against the threat of nuclear disaster, swell and gather strength.

[Ptashnikov] Vladimir Nikolayevich, while speaking of the comprehensive Soviet nuclear-disarmament program, you mentioned an accord on ending all nuclear blasts as one of its component parts. Could you perhaps enlarge upon this matter?

[Chernyshev] It is now perfectly plain to all that a reduction in nuclear arsenals alone, without any ban on the testing of nuclear weapons, will not provide a way out of the dilemma of the nuclear threat, as the remaining part of the nuclear arsenals is modernized and the possibility remains of creating increasingly refined and deadly nuclear weapons and of testing new types on the testing grounds. Therefore, an end to testing is a practical step toward ending the arms race.

For a year and half, silence has reigned over the Soviet nuclear testing grounds. Our country has extended its unilateral moratorium five times. But the last time the Soviet Union did this it extended its moratorium until the first U.S. nuclear explosion of 1987, since, as before, there are no indications that the United States is prepared to follow the example of the USSR and renounce nuclear testing.

What is more, Washington has already given preliminary notice that the next nuclear device will be detonated on 29 January. At a time when the United States is stubbornly continuing to implement its program of nuclear tests, with the aim of creating new nuclear weapons and stockpiling them, of course the Soviet Union cannot go on displaying endless unilateral restraint.

A situation has arisen, which, if it persists, threatens to seriously damage the security of the Soviet Union and its allies.

I would note one more factor of outstanding importance: In defending their specific interests, the leaders of the capitalist world cannot close their eyes to the significance of public opinion in drafting political decisions. That is why they try to manipulate public opinion. It is possible to draw up a genealogical chain of such motives: the unilateral moratorium, extended five times by the Soviet Union, resulting in the undermining, to a large extent, of the myths about the Soviet military menace and the propaganda nature of the foreign-policy initiatives of the Soviet Union. Hence the shift in public opinion in the United States and the other NATO countries; a certain divergence between the United States and a number of its allies on the possibility of compromise with the Soviet Union, and some movement in the positions of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives on questions relating to negotiation with the USSR, including negotiation on ending nuclear tests.

Unfortunately, the final link is still missing in this chain -- a change, as a result of the factors enumerated, in the position of the U.S. Administration itself. But it seems to me that we may conclude that, regardless of whether it rises to the proposals of the USSR on banning all nuclear explosions, the U.S. Administration's room to maneuver is already more restricted than it was. I would say that the very refusal by the U.S. Administration to end tests of nuclear weapons refutes more convincingly than any logical process of deduction the thesis propounded in official Washington policy, that the United States is striving to rid mankind of nuclear weapons. [passage omitted on Ptashnikov on the nature of the U.S. military-industrial complex, the corporations involved in it, and what they stand to gain from government arms contracts]

[Ptashnikov] Many of the letters the editorial office receives request a talk about Afghanistan and about the steps being taken by the government of that country to stabilize the domestic political situation and end the crude external interference by imperialist, anti-Afghan forces. I put this question to one of the participants in our program, Doctor of Historical Sciences Aleksey Mikaylovic Vasilyev.

[Vasilyev] In the DRA, our friendly neighbor, an event of crucial importance to political life has taken place. An extraordinary plenum of the PDPA Central Committee, which adopted the decision to carry out a policy of nationwide reconciliation, has been held. The republic's Revolutionary Council announced the start of negotiations with the opposing side on national reconciliation. As one of the most important conditions for this, a decision was made to adtop a cease-fire in Afghanistan starting 15 January. The armed forces of Afghanistan will cease fire in combat operation with the forces of the opposition within the country and will restrict themselves to guarding the frontiers and strategic installations.

If the armistice is observed, it may be extended even beyond its established term of 6 months. The people's authorities are appealing to all honest Afghans, to all who regard themselves as Afghan patriots prepared to work for the present and future of their country, regardless of their political views. They are also appealing to all those who, for various reasons, are outside the country, outside Afghanistan, and are prepared to become involved in the building of a life of peace in the homeland. Neither political groupings nor the leaders of armed formations based abroad are excluded from the proposed national reconciliation. The people's authorities will strive to set up a government of national unity, going as far as to give it the nature of a coalition, which means involving broad political forces in holding power.

The declaration expresses great respect for priests of the Muslim cult, and for religious figures. Moreover, it emphasizes that Islam is the religion of Afghanistan. This will be enshrined in the new constitution.

The Soviet leadership and Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev himself, the general secretary of the Central Committee of our party, have hailed the courage with which the leaders of revolutionary Afghanistan adopted this decision. In the Soviet Union the hope is being voiced that the noble and far-sighted gesture of the cease-fire will be supported by all warring forces in Afghanistan.

The success of national reconciliation would signify a speedy return of Soviet troops to their homeland, of all our fighting men, who are awaited at home. The Soviet troops came to the aid of the friendly people in their hour of difficulty. As for guarantees of withdrawal, I remind you that this process was begun recently with the return to the USSR of six regiments at full strength from Afghanistan.

The program formulated in the speech of Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, may be appraised as a tangible manifestation of the new political philosophy, the new political thinking, as it were, which goes beyond class, tribal, caste, and religious consideration, with the aim of attaining and maintaining for the people of Afghanistan that supreme asset -- peace.

Nationwide reconciliation and settlement corresponds to the interests not just of the Afghan people. It is natural that it is beneficial to their neighbors as well. Afghanistan has also extended the hand of reconciliation to its neighbors. Now it is up to them: They must also evince political wisdom. The year ahead could lay the ground for new relations between Afghanistan and all its neighbors. This would mean consolidation of Afghanistan's position as a sovereign independent state pursuing a policy of neutrality and nonalignment.

It is difficult to imagine, however, that the process of reconciliation will be smooth and straightforward. It may be assumed, at least, that hostile forces, that is, those with an interest in continuing the shooting and the suffering of the Afghan people, will try to block national reconciliation in Afghanistan. It is possible that extremists in the counterrevolutionary camp will take steps in this direction. In any event, at this critical time, the Soviet people are with the DRA. They wish it success in carrying out its policy of nationwide reconciliation, which would mean peace and happiness for all Afghans and all their neighbors and friends.

[Ptashnikov] Aleksey Mikhaylovich, some of our listeners, such as Comrade Kovalevskiy, of Moscow, show interest in the situation in a country which is a neighbor of Afghanistan, Iran, and in the course of events in the Iran-Iraq conflict, particularly as it is not merely not dying down, but assuming an increasingly bloody nature. [passage omitted on Vasilyev providing factual material on Iranian new year offensive, Tehran and Baghdad radio's conflicting claims, vast scale of 7-year war and its senselessness for both belligerents]

[Vasilyev] However, if one takes the external forces supporting and fanning the conflict, it is quite impossible to regard the war as senseless. It has sense for the leaders of imperialist policy, above all for Washington and Tel Aviv, for the ruling circles of the United States and Israel. It is they who strive to ensure that the two peoples wear themselves out in strife. The arms traders of the United States and Western Europe who are growing fat on this cruel conflict have an interest in this war. It is well-known that the war began not just as a consequence of internal causes and the conflicting interests of Baghdad and Tehran. This conflict was provoked by Western intelligence services, above all the CIA, who supplied the leaders of both Iran and Iraq with quite specific disinformation regarding the intentions and capabilities of the opposing side.

[Ptashnikov] Aleksey Mikhaylovich, could you tell us in more detail about the aims which the U.S. Administration is pursuing in fanning the flames of the Iran-Iraq conflict. After all, nobody doubts any longer that the illegal supply of U.S. arms to Iran, which led, as is known, to a noisy political scandal, was one of the stages of the White House's adventurous policy with regard to these two countries.

[Vasilyev] Not long ago a curious document came into my hands -- an analysis of the situation in Iran, made by the Center for Strategic and International Studies at Georgetown University.

It was devoted to Iran, and the thrust of it lay in recommending that the administration build bridges to those forces in Iran who were prepared not only to conduct dialogue with the United States, but also to cooperate with it, and channel the ardor of those forces into an anti-Soviet course, to resurrect in one form or another the old alliance with Iran, on the basis of anti-Sovietism.

Official Washington appears as a power which intends to impose, by whatever means, upon the developing world its mode of thought, its political course, its political value-orientation, preparing to lash out at all who are worried about their national interests, problems of maintaining peace on earth, of establishing a system of international security, of maintaining the principles and implementing the principles of international law.

The policy of imposing one's will upon other people, of imposing the U.S. diktat, a policy which is often dubbed neoglobalism, is far from new. The new element in it is perhaps the greater degree of energy, or, more precisely, brazenness, with which it is conducted. This policy is based upon the objective basis of the economic difficulties of the developing countries, which are aggravated by imperialist interference. The task imperialism has set itself consists in exacting social, or, more precisely, sociopolitical, revenge, on a world scale, both for the destruction of the colonial system and the loss of many positions in Asia, Africa, and Latin America; and harnessing the developing countries to itself not only on the basis of economic dependence, but also with the aid of new forms of political dependence and the orientation it imposes. [passage omitted on Ptashnikov concluding segment on Gulf war quoting the Soviet Government's 9 January statement on the subject, segment on the situation in Chile.]

[Ptashnikov] Comrade Volklonevskiy, from the village of Lipovka, Bazarnnokarabulakskiy rayon, Saratov oblast, asks the following question in his letter: How is it that in capitalist countries social tension has recently become much more acute, unemployment is growing, there are more and more homeless people; yet, nevertheless, in parliamentary elections the right-wing forces are keeping the upper hand? I shall ask my colleague, Commentator Viktor Levin, to answer this question.

[Levin] This is indeed a very interesting question. In many Western countries at present people are talking of an upsurge of neoconservatism. This upsurge began in the United States of America, and then it switched to Western Europe. Where the United States is concerned, according to the latest statistics -- in particular, according to the conclusions of the prominent American economist and political scientist Galbraith -- neoconservatism is clearly on the decline. Neoconservatism is embodied in the policy of the present U.S. Administration. In the economic sphere, it found its expression in what goes under the name of Reaganomics, that is, the policy of the administration in regard to solving the economic problems facing the United States, a policy which places the stress upon satisfying the interests of big capital. But now Reaganomics is yielding evident failures, its difficulties are showing up: One has only to recall that the United States state debt exceeds the fantastic sum of $2 trillion to understand that even the most fervent adherents of Reaganomics cannot bring themselves to speak of the successes of Reaganomics today.

Nevertheless, in Western European countries the situation really is taking shape in such a way that, for example, it emerges according to the forecasts made from public opinion polls that the CDU-CSU block, the Christian Democrats, who are currently setting the tone in the government coalition, have the best chances in the forthcoming West German Bundestag elections on 25 January.

The Social Democrats, who have set themselves the ambitious target of obtaining an absolute majority, are lagging behind, and as the general election date approaches, this lag is perhaps even becoming increasingly noticeable.

What are the reasons for this? Indisputably there are several. At the time Christian Democrats came to power in the FRG, just over 5 years ago, the general decline in the economy of the capitalist countries was continuing. Then, by virtue of the cyclical nature of the capitalist means of production, an upswing began, and the forces which indeed embody neoconservatism are now claiming credit for this upswing. [Passage omitted on government claiming credit for present improved economic situation following years of decline; rising unemployment while solid capitalists live well; Social Democratic platform]

Well, in answer to Comrade Volkonevskiy's question, I repeat, I should like to draw attention to the fact that in the developed capitalist countries, the ruling circles, expressing the interests of the bourgeois parties, have managed to take advantage of the improvement in the economic situation for their own purposes, and on this wave they are still continuing to keep the upper hand, although, as forecasts show, this year the FRG will also be faced with economic difficulties, and perhaps difficulties which the country will find it hard to cope with. But that will be after the elections. During the election campaign, however, the ruling circles can make use of the positive factors that exist, as they are indeed doing. [Passage omitted on segment on a comrade from Tajikistan asks for information about Burma; facts about this small agrarian country; commercial and cultural links with the USSR are developing successfully; segment on a young listener from Vologda asks about Polynesia; facts, including mention of the campaign to stop French nuclear test on Muroroa; brief segment on facts about Andorra, the smallest state in the world]

BURLATSKIY CITES U.S. EXPERTS ON U.S.-USSR TIES

PM140922 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Jan 87 p 14

[Fedor Burlatskiy article under the rubric "A Year of Hopes and Struggle": "What Does America Want, Anyway?"]

[Text] For us, for Soviet people, 1986 was a year of struggle for the practical implementation of the new way of thinking. Reykjavik was the culmination of this process. Although it did not prove possible to adopt concrete decisions there, the positions of the USSR and the United States converged more than ever before, as is well known.

What kind of a year was it for the United States? What kind of year will next year, 1987, be for Soviet-U.S. relations? May we hope for accords with the present administration on questions of reducing nuclear missiles and other arms, or must we wait for a new administration to come to power, which will happen only 2 years from now? Those are the questions which interested me during my trip to the United States. I should point out that I was granted good opportunities to discuss these questions at various levels.

In Washington I met with many U.S. establishment figures: J. Matlock, special assistant to the President for European and Soviet affairs (he is spoken of as a future U.S. ambassador to the USSR); A. Hartman, the current U.S. ambassador to our country; L. Aspin, chairman of the House of Representatives Armed Services Committee; M. Stafford, special assistant to P. Nitze; B. Burton, State Department assistant for disarmament control [kontrol nad razoruzheniyem]; Profesor P. (Raddauey), secretary of the Kennan Institute; (D.) Billington, director of the Wilsonian Scientific Center, and others.

So what is the position of American official circles at the moment? In the main they assessed positively the results of Reykjavik. They agreed that an unprecedented convergence of the USSR and U.S. positions on key arms reduction issues was achieved there. They did not conceal the fact that in Reykjavik the President was not prepared for the new proposals from the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and therefore reacted spontaneously to many proposals. This put him in a difficult position after his return to Washington. The White House representatives came out in favor of the continuation of direct diplomacy between the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and the U.S. President. Moreover, they claimed that if M.S. Gorbachev came to the United States, if only for a week, it would be possible to resolve major questions of disarmament and the development of Soviet-U.S. relations.

The representatives of the administration expressed the opinion that the "Iran affair" will prompt the President to seek effective compensation in the international arena to help restore his prestige in public opinion. They see one possibility here -- the conclusion of an agreement on arms limitation questions with the USSR. When I asked whether all this means that the President is really prepared to be flexible on SDI and the reduction of the military budget, the answer was usually evasive: Some kind of compromise in this regard is possible, although, of course, the President has pinned his entire reputation on the SDI program.

People from the President's entourage spoke in terms of seeing 1987 as a unique opportunity to conclude an arms limitation agreement. Why? Because this suits the President's own mood, on the one hand, and on the other he will certainly find support from U.S. public opinion. [paragraph continues]

They claim that if this chance is lost, no new opportunity could arise before 1990. This is explained by the following aspects: The whole of 1988 will be spent on the election campaign. A new president will need at least 2 years to form an administration, find his feet, enlist the support of Congress, and begin energetic activity in the international arena.

As for the future presidential elections, the official representatives of the administration asserted that regardless of who wins -- a Republican or a Democrat -- he will take a position somewhat to the right of center, since R. Reagan's policy, especially in the sphere of the economy and arms, has had a great influence on U.S. public opinion. And for these reasons they believe that 1987 is the most favorable year for the continuation of Soviet-American dialogue.

At the State Department I had a meeting and conversation with (Elliot Kharvitts), special assistant for East-West trade. Since at the beginning of the conversation it was stipulated that it could be published, I will cite my interviewee's remarks directly.

(E. Kharvitts) assured me that the United States is studying new potential for the development of Soviet-U.S. economic cooperation. It is no easy or simple matter to make progress on this question, especially since America has no one department controlling foreign trade, and it is mainly up to private firms.

I asked (E. Kharvitts): What is the attitude in the U.S. to the Soviet Union's new approach concerning the creation of joint enterprises with foreign firms and companies? My interlocutor told me that on the whole the attitude of business circles, especially some of them, is positive. Of course, the restrictions imposed by U.S. law concerning the sale of strategic goods remain. But there are wide opportunities in many peaceful sectors of the economy's development. As for the firms and companies, they are interested in particular in certain problems: Where will the joint output be sold -- only in the USSR, or abroad; what will the profit be, and how will it be distributed; how will the work of foreign and also Soviet specialists be remunerated at these enterprises; is it possible to overcome bureaucratic difficulties more quickly than before? The question of buying oil and gas from the Soviet Union is now being specially studied. New potential is being sought in this sphere.

How do people in the United States regard economic relations as a basis for political relations? (E. Kharvitts) stressed the difference between the positions of Western Europe, in particular the FRG, and the United States. Unlike the West European states, which proceed first and foremost on the basis of the interests of economic cooperation, the United States puts political relations first. In the early seventies there were expectations in the United States that the development of economic relations would become a basis for successful political cooperation. Now "the American Administration has no such illusions," especially since the deterioration in East-West relations at the end of the seventies took place completely independently of the preservation of economic cooperation between the countries of Eastern and Western Europe.

I asked about the possibility of alterations to the well known Jackson Amendment, under which in 1974 the USSR was refused most-favored-nation status. The State Department representative stated that this is unlikely, since it depends on the problem of human rights and emigration in the USSR. I did not omit to ask him: Does such linkage exist in U.S. relations with the PRC, Romania, and Yugoslavia? Mr (Kharvitts) could find no answer to that, merely mumbling that those nations are secondary (?) powers.

I gained the impression that the problem of "linkage" ["linkidzh"], which we call "uvyazka," remains the most significant in U.S. policy with regard to the USSR. Many American officials, including relatively senior ones, told me in confidence that U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Perle links the entire process of talks with the USSR on disarmament questions exclusively with the problem of emigration from the Soviet Union; until there are radical changes in this sphere, no agreements with the USSR on disarmament should be entered into -- that is Perle's stance, according to his colleagues.

Why this inconsistency in U.S. policy? Why does the U.S. so eagerly and thoughtlessly use "linkage" against us and protest so vigorously against the problem of the "package" put forward by the Soviet Union? After all, the "package" does not concern changes of any kind within the United States itself. It does not link the problem of disarmament with economic and humanitarian relations. No, the "package" concerns security alone, and reflects the USSR's concern that this package be resolved in the interests of both sides and on the basis of parity.

Is that not logical? But what I was told by U.S. officials about the linkage of economic and humanitarian relations with internal developments in the USSR can hardly be deemed logical.

As is well known, at the recent elections to the U.S. Senate the Democrats prevailed, and now they control both houses. In Washington I met with Congressman L. Aspin, Democrat from Wisconsin.

L. Aspin said that in the next few years Congress will come out in favor of the development of Soviet-U.S. dialogue on arms limitation questions. In his opinion Congress will now resolutely oppose the administration's desire to abandon the SALT II treaty, especially if the Soviet Union publicly acknowledges its own few violations. The congressman is distrustful of all the Soviet Union's objections here, and believes that the great publicity and openness [otkrytost] of the United States should become the norm for the Soviet Union too, especially since in fact the two sides already know all about each other.

I asked about the possibility of a cut in the U.S. military budget, on the basis, naturally, of parity with the Soviet Union. L. Aspin expressed a skeptical view on this question since talks and agreements have not hitherto led to an equivalent reduction in the military budget. He does not believe major changes are possible here. Even if substantial reductions in nuclear missile arms take place, the problem of the balance and modernization of conventional arms will remain. Only the resolution of this problem could seriously affect the U.S. military budget.

My interlocutor, like other representatives of the Democratic Party, incidentally, is optimistic about the prospects for the future presidential elections. The Democrats have virtually no doubt of victory. In L. Aspin's opinion, at the first stage the possible candidates for the two parties will be George Bush and Gary Hart. But he does not exclude the possibility that new figures may emerge at the next stage.

The same view was expressed by the well known American historian Arthur Schlesinger, former staffer of John Kennedy's administration, who received me in his three-story house on 64th Avenue in New York.

Schlesinger is an active supporter of the disarmament program. His position is similar to that of McNamara, Bundy, Sorensen, and other former John Kennedy aides. McNamara recently expressed the view that to begin with, it would be a good idea to return to the concept of "mutual deterrence," formulated back in the sixties, and that for the purposes of such deterrence it is sufficient for each side to have no more than 100 nuclear warheads. As for total nuclear disarmament, even the most liberal representatives of the Democratic Party are not yet ready to support this position. They link this process with parity in conventional arms, and also with real monitoring of [kontrol za] other states capable of creating nuclear weapons.

After my return to Moscow I was invited to meet with Senator Gary Hart. G. Hart assessed highly the profound, frank, and realistic ideas and proposals put forward by M.S. Gorbvachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on questions of Soviet-U.S. relations and the USSR's domestic and foreign policy.

He also expressed the view that the Soviet Union should continue its active efforts in talks with the present U.S. Administration on questions of disarmament; even if this yields no practical results now, it will provide a basis for future agreements. G. Hart said that if any agreements were concluded with Reagan, that would give the Republicans certain advantages in the future elections. But in G. Hart's opinion, the problems of arms limitation come before party problems, and the Democrats will in all circumstances support the present Republican administration if it shows readiness to make compromises with the Soviet Union.

Things are still difficult in America when it comes to the new way of thinking on questions of world politics. Of course, elements of the new approach can be discovered in various milieus, especially among American professors and politicians from former administrations. They can be found to a lesser extent among journalists, and are utterly negligible among representatives of the country's present leadership.

Naturally, none of my interviewees was such a madman as to say that he wants or tolerates the idea of nuclear war. The view that such a war would be catastrophic has become axiomatic for all Americans, especially since the conclusions drawn by Carl Sagan and other major American scientists on the inevitability of the onset of a "nuclear winter" in the event of the simultaneous explosion of the stockpiled nuclear weapons.

But the question is what conclusions are drawn from this extremely important premise? As for the Soviet leaders, the most important conclusion, which they constantly speak of to representatives of Western countries, including the United States, is quite simple: We cannot, we have no right to regard each other as enemies unless we want to disappear forever from the face of our planet, along with all mankind.

This means that first of all the "concept of the enemy" must be discarded. Of course, we represent different social systems. The Soviet and American peoples believe in different values, although in much -- and West Europeans are particularly insistent about this -- we are close to each other.

Incidentally, during our meeting G. Hart asked me where I see the similarity between our peoples. I gave the first answer that came into my head: probably in the fact that both the United States and we have attempted to create a new type of civilization unlike those which existed before -- the West European, Chinese, Indian, Latin American, and other civilizations. For us, this civilization is associated with socialism and the idea of equality. For the Americans, this civilization is associated with the idea of freedom, above all unrestricted freedom of economic activity, or in other words, highly developed capitalism.

The world's two great powers. Who are we, in relation to each other? Rivals? Partners? Enemies? This is a vital question of the approach to Soviet-U.S. relations and to the East-West problem in general. But however hard I tried to convince my colleagues, during meetings at Columbia University and the Kennan Institute in Washington and the Universities of Stanford and Berkeley in California, that we can be rivals and should be partners, but have no right to be enemies, it seemed to me that I was not achieving my goal.

Much depends also on the Sovietologists who act as experts not only at the White House, the State Department, and other U.S. institutions, but also in the mass media.

Incidentally, not only the Americans, but we too must set about breaking stereotypes. Contrary to the general opinion in our country, not all -- by no means all -- Sovietologists hold anti-Soviet positions. The attitude of such fierce anti-Sovietists as R. Pipes and Z. Brzezinski, for instance, are one thing, but that of such liberal-minded specialists as M. Shulman, A. Dallin, S. Cohen, and others is another matter. Of course, none of them shares Marxist or Soviet convictions. But there are many conscientious specialists among them who study the Soviet Union and promote, rather than oppose, the development of Soviet-U.S. relations.

During my appearance at Berkeley university, Professor (D. Kholdren), a leading U.S. academic and one of the leaders of the Pugwash movement, said: "For us Americans, a very important indicator of the Soviet leadership's new way of thinking is the attitude to people like Academician A. Sakharov. Will there be changes in the approach to such problems?" I made so bold as to reply: "I think there will, since this is an element of the general process of democratization which is taking place so intensively in our country. But at the moment the United States, far from helping, is actually hindering the development of the new way of thinking in world politics, and that means that it is also putting spokes in the wheels of the structural transformations taking place in our country." And the participants in the discussion -- at least, the majority of them -- agreed with me. The approval with which progressive circles in the United States and other Western countries greeted the Soviet leadership's decision on the fate and activity of Academician A. Sakharov is indicative.

So what was may general impression from my meetings and conversations in the United States? What does America want, anyway? First, it seemed to me that the majority of my interlocutors, including Washington officials, understand that 1986 was a year of lost opportunities for them. They look back with regret at Reykjavik, where major, important agreements could have been reached. Second, Americans have hopes that 1987 will yield real progress in arms limitation talks, although they are far from entertaining any illusions about R. Reagan's stance on SDI.

And last, the concept of the "enemy" and even "enemy number one" in the Americans' public awareness about the Soviet Union still prevails today. This too must be reckoned with, as a real fact. Tremendous efforts will be needed on our part and, probably, important and radical agreements between the USSR and the United States and some activeness on the part of the most progressive section of the American elite in order to bring about a breakthrough in public awareness in that country.

U.S. 'NEOGLOBALISM' IN PERSIAN GULF ASSAILED

LD142127 Moscow TASS in English 2049 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 14 TASS -- by TASS political news analyst Askold Biryukov:

Hardly a day passes without fresh evidence cropping up to the effect that Washington was prepared to employ any disinformation and lies to achieve its neoglobalist ends.

The escalation of the Irangate scandal gives abundant food for reflection. THE NEW YORK TIMES reported, quoting the intelligence community, that the U.S. was adding more fuel to the fire of the Iran-Iraq war for the sake of its own objectives in the Persian Gulf by supplying weapons to Iran and providing both Iran and Iraq with deliberately distorted or inaccurate intelligence data.

The newspaper observed that the U.S. was simultaneously extending covert assistance to emigre groups which sought to topple the Iranian government.

The paper quoted a White House staff member as saying that the covert operations reflected the sentiments of highly placed administration officials who thus sought to achieve major geopolitical changes -- rapprochement with Iran or, to use the conventional language, the restoration of the old orders in that country.

When Deputy Press Secretary Larry Speakes, asked whether the situation described by THE NEW YORK TIMES was true, [he] did not give a clear answer. A CBS correspondent to the State Department was told, however, that both Iran and Iraq were supplied with deluding information by American intelligence. In the case with Iran, that was exaggerated data on the numerical strength of Soviet troops deployed in the border area.

The thesis of the "Soviet threat" with the help of which the administration tried to exert pressure on Iran seems to be so absurd that it has been dismissed by the U.S. espionage agency. According to the CIA, said THE WASHINGTON POST, the Soviet Union posed no particular threat to Iran. But Speakes pursued at his briefing the false viewpoint of the administration by claiming that the newspaper report was deluding and that the threat of the Soviet invasion of Iran had long since been real.

No, Mr. Speakes, it is not the USSR but the U.S. which poses a real threat to Iran, and has been posing it for a long time. Who organized the overthrow of the legitimte government led by Mussadeq? Who used military coups, assassinations and persecution to preserve the shah's tyranny in Iran? Who continued "covert operations" and "power politics" following the shah's departure?

None other than Vice-President George Bush publicly declared recently that the hearts of Americans were full of justified hostility and true hatred towards the Khomeyni regime. Bush said that he and the President experienced the same feelings.

The talk of the "Soviet threat" to Iran is designed to cover up U.S. international terrorism with regard to Iran and the entire Persian Gulf area that was proclaimed "a zone of U.S. vital interests."

The U.S. needs to kindle the flame of the Iran-Iraq war in order to escalate its military presence in the region and create conditions for interference in the domestic affairs of the countries situated her.

Zbiegniew Brzezinski, a former presidential adviser on national security affairs, said in the Senate Armed Services Committee yesterday that a third of U.S. Armed Forces in Western Europe should be redeployed in the oil-rich Persian Gulf to defend the U.S. interests there. They should become part of the American Central Command, he pointed out.

Such are Washington's neoglobalist designs in that part of the world. But they cannot be hidden from world public opinion [however] hard as the U.S. Administration might try to do that.

PRAVDA EXAMINES WEINBERGER BUDGET REPORT

PM141455 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Jan 87 First Edition p 5

[V Gan dispatch under general rubric "The Creed of the Opponents of Detente": "The Troubadours of the Arms Race; U.S. Defense Secretary Calls for War"]

[Text] Washington, 13 Jan -- On one of the walls of the Pentagon public relations department among photographs of missiles, war planes, and ships hangs a plaque with the following inscription inspired by the philosophy of the U.S. Defense Department. It reads: "We believe in a permanent prewar [predvoyennyy] status (peace) -- the Pentagon."

Peace as a prewar status -- this is not simply a phrase current among the people who work in the pentagon-shaped building on the Potomac. It it also the Pentagon's vision of a present and a future in which there is no place for arms control or disarmament. At least this is the impression you gain having acquainted yourself with the report of U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger to the U.S. Congress on the draft military budget for fiscal 1988 which has just been published. It is, in a way a unique document since out of its almost 360 pages there are barely 10 which do not contain the "big lie," that is allusions to the "growing Soviet threat" which is being used in an attempt to justify the new spirals of militarism and to obstruct any measures aimed at curbing the arms race.

The report's main postulate is formulated in one sentence which eloquently describes the true frame of mind of the U.S. Administration. "Our aim is to prepare for war so well that we are able successfully to contain aggression," the military department chief declares in an attempt to justify the request for further military appropriations for the Pentagon's needs to the tune of 312 billion dollars.

The picture he paints is simply terrifying. "In every corner of the world vital U.S. interests are in jeopardy because of the growing 'Soviet military threat'." "Moscow maintains an unprecedented pace of military expansion and continues to use military might as a means to achieve its merciless aims." The report contains more lies of this kind than you can count. Incidentally, the slander of the Soviet Union is not surprising since, as Weinberger points out, "the major and most expensive part of our military effort is motivated by the might and policy of the USSR." This probably explains the reasons for the Pentagon's ranting which is given material expression in the past and present buildup of the U.S. war machine. According to the report, during the Reagan administration's years in power, the forced military preparations have encompassed without exception all categories of nuclear and conventional arms of the U.S. Air Force and Navy, ground forces, and special task forces for intervention throughout the world.

The Defense Secretary places special emphasis on the accelerated development [razrabotka] of the so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative" which, according to his words, "we must not," and "will not give up ever." Swearing allegiance to "Star Wars," Weinberger leaves no doubt why the Pentagon is clinging to SDI so stubbornly. The aim is to obtain military superiority over the Soviet Union since "our SDI promises to reduce the military usefulness of the Soviet offensive missiles."

The Pentagon chief is so carried away with the pursuit of illusions that he essentially rejects any talks with the Soviet Union on arms control.

This is a most dangerous game. More and more Americans are becoming aware of this.

CIA'S CHIEF CASEY'S CAREER, 'RETIREMENT' VIEWED

OW141052 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0430 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Vladimir Molchanov commentary from the Novosti newscast]

[Text] Foreign press agencies report that Washington expects CIA Director, William Casey will be retiring. Our commentary:

[Molchanov] Casey is sick and it appears he will not be returning to his headquarters at Langley. It is time to summarize his activities and recall some of the episodes from his life.

During his lifetime, the 73-year-old Casey knew both successes and failures. After World War II he began his career in intelligence. He was then in private legal practice and involved in political activity. Casey experienced another success in 1980 when he headed the presidential election campaign for Ronald Reagan. Reagan did not forget Casey's services and named him head of the CIA.

It was during Casey's time that the CIA director, for the first time in U.S. history, became a full-fledged member of the government. Casey made all efforts to prove to the administration that mining of Nicaraguan ports was the most effective way to counter the so-called undermining communist activities on the continent.

Casey did much for the CIA. During his tenure, the budget of the spy department has grown 20 percent. More than that, the CIA was allowed, together with the FBI, to conduct unlimited surveillance of all Americans whom it considered unreliable. Casey was also successful in broadening the role of the CIA as a component part of the U.S. foreign policy apparatus.

As is often is the case in America, Casey was not spared from a scandal in connection with the misuse of funding. While serving as CIA director he continued to invest in the stock market and concluded deals for more than $3 million. As far back as the seventies, Casey, together with seven other joint owners of an agricultural equipment company, was able to trick the investors and gain more than $3.5 million.

The following is the last episode: NEWSWEEK recently published an article which shows that the CIA and its director William Casey have undoubtedly played a key part in the so-called Irangate. Thus, in the twilight of his years, Casey has much to remember. Nor will we forget the harm tht he has done to people in various parts of the globe.

'SEVERAL' TROOP UNITS TO WITHDRAW FROM MONGOLIA

LD151320 Moscow TASS in English 1318 GMT 15 Jan 87

["USSR Defense Ministry -- Announcement" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow January 15 TASS -- In keeping with a decision taken by the Soviet leadership and an understanding reached with the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic, one full-strength motorized rifle division and several separate units from the contingent of Soviet troops on temporary station in the territory of Mongolia will be returned to the Soviet Union next April through June.

GORBACHEV REPLIES TO JAPANESE GIRL'S LETTER

LD151246 Moscow TASS in English 1244 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 15 TASS -- Follows the full text of Mikhail Gorbachev's reply to a Japanese girl's letter.

Dear Hanako,
Thanks for your letter and photograph.

While reading your letter, I felt your kind feelings towards Soviet people, your desire to study the Russian language in order to know and understand better the Soviet Union. I think that this is a sure path towards friendship and cooperation between the peoples of our two countries. The Soviet people sincerely want goodneighbourly relations with Japan which they respect.

In our country, too, children have pen friends abroad, study the history and languages of other nations. They strive to make friends with them, to exchange books, toys and letters. They want that there be always sunshine, that mothers be always at their side and that there be peace.

You write that you hate war. The Soviet people share this feeling. They lived through all the horrors of wars, through immense suffering and destruction and numerous casualties. That is why we in the Soviet Union, dear Hanako, spare no effort in the name of building a world without wars, without nuclear weapons so that children of our planet always live in happiness and do not know the sinister word -- war. One should not allow the repetition of the tragedy of Hiroshima. One of whose victims was a Japanese girl, Sadako; she never made the thousand paper cranes...

As to your dream to visit the Soviet Union, I hope that it will come true. I'm sure that you will find here many sincere friends among Soviet kids. Like you, they also dream of peace.

Thanks for the kind wishes. I want to wish you good health and success, more joys in the new year 1987.

Mikhail Gorbachev.

ACTIVISTS PLAN BLOCKADE OF U.S. BASE ON OKINAWA

OW090556 Moscow in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1200 GMT 8 Jan 87

[Text] Antiwar and trade union organizations on the island of Okinawa, Japan, are preparing for large-scale demonstrations against U.S. troops stationed there. They plan to blockade the U.S. air base at Kadena, where F-15 fighters are stationed and B-52 strategic bombers also make frequent landings. An estimated 20,000 people are expected to take part in the demonstrations.

U.S. PLAN TO EXPAND S. KOREA BASES DENOUNCED

PM131253 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Jan 87 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Against Aggressive U.S. Preparations"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 12 Jan -- The United States intends to continue a policy perpetuating the split in Korea and aimed at turning the Korean peninsula into a bridgehead for aggression against the DPRK and other socialist countries in Asia. The newspaper NODONG SINMUN writes of this in connection with Washington's plans to allocate $149 million in fiscal 1988 to enlarging U.S. military bases in South Korea. The organ of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee reports that it is proposed to build 17 new military installations at U.S. air bases in a number of regions in the south of the Korean peninsula, as well as 15 installations at ground force bases.

The Pentagon is currently building several dozen special nuclear weapon stores in South Korea, and intends to deploy Lance missiles; and B-52 bombers carrying cruise missiles equipped with nuclear warheads are making flights in the country's airspace. All these facts attest that on the pretext of "ensuring security" and of "a threat of attack on the South" Washington is accelerating nuclear preparations leading to a greater threat of war in that region. The United States must liquidate its military bases and withdraw American troops together with nuclear and other mass destruction weapons from South Korea, NODONG SINMUN emphasizes.

S. KOREA HOLDING SOME 2,000 'POLITICAL PRISONERS'

LD132332 Moscow TASS in English 2148 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Tokyo January 13 TASS -- The South Korean police arrested another five people today on charges of organising revolutionary circles among students.

The authorities have been massively arresting students, activists of the workers' movement and opposition members since last November.

Seoul has recently arrested 11 people whom it announced members of an anti-government workers' group.

At present, South Korea has some 2,000 political prisoners, all of whom have been charged with a standard accusation of violating the national security law.

DRA'S NAJIB APPEALS FOR PEACE; LISTS TRUCE TERMS

LD141838 Moscow TASS in English 1821 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Kabul January 14 TASS -- "The war against Afghanistan benefits the imperialists of the United States, Britain and other capitalist countries. It benefits only those who, while posing as Afghans and Muslims, sold themselves out to the enemies of the Afghan people," says the appeal issued today by Najib, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

"War and fratricide contradict the interests of our people and the spirit of our new history that began in April.

If each of us asked what the Afghan people needed most today, we are sure that the answer would be only one -- peace," Najib pointed out.

"The people are tired of the war, they want calm for their ancient land. The people do not want to be a convenient tool in the hands of those who, while living in the warmth, wealth and vice of Pakistani cities, force deceived, intimidated people, our compatriots, to sure death," Najib said.

"The people are increasingly aware of the fact that the fratricidal war is needed only for those who capitalize on the grief and tears of people. These robbers will no longer be able to conceal the fact that their gold in Peshawar, Geneva, New York and London was stained with the blood of Afghan people.

The immediate cessation of the fratridical war, national reconciliation and peace constitute the only sensible step in the present-day relations. This is the heaviest blow to the imperialists and their hirelings."

"Proceeding from the supreme interests of our people," Najib said, "the PDPA Central Committee, the revolutionary council, the government, the National Fatherland Front, the council of ulemas and the union of widows offer -- officially and publicly, openly and honestly -- a truce to the warring sides.

Let us stop bloodshed. When arms are used, reason is silent. One cannot hear and understand one another in the rumble of explosions.

We solemnly declare: We shall consistently observe the terms of the truce and shall seek complete peace. We shall sacredly observe our religious, historical and tribal traditions, customs of our ancestors.

We shall deeply respect the national and religious feelings of our people. We shall meet half-way all those who hold dear the destiny of our generation, the future of our country," the appeal pointed out.

The general secretary of the PDPA Central committee Najib announced the terms of reconciliation in his appeal to the Afghan nation:

1. All fire shall be ceased at 00.00 January 15, 1987 and all hostilities on the entire territory of the country, including its air space, shall be stopped.

2. All units and detachments of all services of the DRA's Armed Forces shall receive at 00.00 January 15, 1987 an order on their return to the places of their permanent deployment and transition to peace-time military activity.

3. The Armed Forces of the DRA shall receive an order to effect functions of guarding the state border of the DRA, state and military installations, to ensure the unimpeded passage of state convoys and private transport carrying wares and freight necessary for the country's peaceful population.

What do we urge the opposing side to do? What do we expect of it?

1. At 00.00 January 15, 1987 it should follow our example and cease all fire, stop hostilities throughout the territory of the country, including its air space.

2. Stop the delivery to and deployment throughout the territory of the DRA of arms and ammunition of all types and systems.

3. From the set hour and day stop the mining of roads.

4. Preclude all instances of acts of terrorism and subversion throughout the territory of the DRA.

We are prepared and urge the opposing side to extend the truce till 00.00 hours July 16, 1987. We are prepared firmly and undeviatingly to observe the terms of the truce and call on the opposing side to do the same. If in response to our peace proposals the opposing side and its armed detachments, groups or individual representatives shall conduct against the people's power combat operations, acts of terrorism or subversion, these actions shall bring about immediate and crushing reply actions by the DRA's Armed Forces, and this will be a legitimate and right retribution to those who will ignore the supreme will of our people -- the will for peace.

We want to be understood correctly: Our call for the truce is not a sign of our weakness. It is the voice of people's wisdom in the name of ending the senseless bloodshed and saving the lives of our brothers and sisters.

The appeal says that a state and local system of government with the guaranteed participation of representatives of both sides striving for the people's supreme good shall be formed after full national reconciliation. All those who have left the country as a result of deception, threats or persecution are allowed freely to return to their home. Full amnesty shall be guaranteed to all the political and military opponents of the authorities who have actively struggled against the people, given that in the period of reconciliation they have firmly and unequivocally decided to discontinue the struggle, and they shall enjoy all the rights and duties of a citizen of the DRA.

After the establishment of final peace on Afghan soil and on condition of the non-resumption of outside interference we will with heartfelt gratitude and our traditional cordiality see off home the Soviet soldiers-internationalists because the grim necessity of their courageous and selfless assistance will no longer exist.

Such are our proposals and lofty aims in the name of saving our country. They are dictated by profound faith in the possibility of establishing peace in our land.

The appeal calls on Iran, Pakistan, the governments and peoples of all countries of the world, international Muslim and other public organisations to assist the establishment of lasting peace in Afghanistan.

AMBASSADOR TO PAKISTAN HAILS DRA CEASE-FIRE

OW150501 Tokyo KYODO in English 0418 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Islamabad, Jan. 15 KYODO -- Soviet Ambassador to Pakistan A.K. Vezirov called the unilateral ceasefire coming into effect Thursday and the reconciliation efforts undertaken by the Afghan Communist Party leader Najib the best basis for a comprehensive settlement of the Afghan issue.

The ambassador told reporters Wednesday that in Soviet view the offer by Najib was "the best thing" for achieving a political settlement in Afghanistan. Vezirov was responding to a question on a demand made by the Afghan rebels known as "mujahidin" that direct talks be held between Afghan resistance forces and the Soviet Union for the withdrawal of the Soviet troops. He was addressing a press conference held here on the eve of the unilateral ceasefire in Afghanistan declared by the government forces. The conference was held to explain various Soviet initiatives undertaken in 1986 in connection with the international year of peace.

The ambassador said that Soviet Union was sincere in withdrawing forces from Afghanistan and declared that "not a single Soviet soldier" would stay in Afghanistan a single day beyond the timetable that might be agreed at the indirect Geneva talks resuming next month. Asked about the time that the Soviet forces would logistically take to withdraw from Afghanistan, Vezirov said any time frame would be acceptable to Moscow if that is agreeable to the Afghan Government.

He also said Moscow stood for Iranian participation in the Geneva talks and believed that this would also be in Iran's own national interest. Iran is seeking representation of the Afghan Mujahidin at the Geneva talks, and an agreement reached between Pakistan and Afghanistan on political settlement cannot be complete without Iranian participation.

Vezirov, turning to bilateral relations between Pakistan and Soviet Union, and Moscow has made a number of suggestions to forge closer ties. One suggestion is to charter tourist flights between Pakistan and the central Soviet Asian republics, Bukhara and Tashkent, which have a rich Islamic cultural heritage, he said.

DRA ENVOY IN MOSCOW COMMENTS ON CEASE-FIRE

LD141321 Moscow TASS in English 1310 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 14 TASS -- "The unilateral ceasefire in Afghanistan tomorrow will mark the start of practical implementation of the policy of national reconciliation," said DRA's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Soviet Union Habib Mangal.

"Yet for the attainment of genuine ceasefire in Afghanistan it takes a positive response from the opposite side," he stressed, addressing a press conference for Soviet and foreign newsmen here today.

The ambassador pointed out that the government has agreed to truce with all, irrespective of the old political differences, enmity and resentments. "At present representatives of 417 armed units with a total strength of 37 thousand are participating in talks with the bodies of people's power. Thousands of former opponents of the revolutionary power are to be released from prison in a few days We call for reconciliation and return home of all Afghans living abroad. We are prepared to form a national unity government with the participation of broad political forces. We do not wish to exclude from the process of national reconciliation various centrist and monarchic groupings," Habib Mangal said.

The ambassador said that the pursuance of the policy of national reconciliation in the country creates favourable conditions for a political situation around Afghanistan. "Some people link political settlement solely with the return home of the limited contingent of Soviet troops from the DRA. But, in real fact, political settlement depends on cessation and guaranteed non-resumption of interference from the outside into Afghanistan's home affairs. It is only in that case that the limited contingent of the Soviet troops will return home."

"The policy of national reconciliation accords with the interests of all Afghans and therefore it is supported by our people. Already now it meets with approval from different classes, social sections and groups of the country's population," the DRA ambassador stressed.

ICO DISCUSSION OF AFGHAN SITUATION PREVIEWED

PM131427 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Konstantin Geyvandov "Political Observer's Opinion": "In Which Direction Is the Islamic Conference Organization Pushing"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The Afghan question is on the topics listed on the agenda of the forthcoming Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] conference. The interest in it is understandable, insofar as the undeclared war launched by the U.S. Administration against Afghanistan on the basis of the doctrine of "neoglobalism" should not leave other Muslim countries indifferent. Especially in view of the fact that serious efforts have been going on for a long time now for its termination and for a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan. Thus, in the view of the countries participating int his process, there was success in achieving significant positive progress with the help of mediating efforts by the personal representatives of the UN secretary general. For its part, the Soviet leadership, wishing to give additional impetus to the process of elaborating specific accords, returned six regiments to the USSR from the limited contingent of its troops in the DRA. Making a general assessment of the Soviet Union's approach to the Afghan problem, Pakistan's Foreign Minister Yaqub Khan described it a few days ago as positive and constructive.

The struggle to achieve peace in the long-suffering Afghan country is perceived as a paramount vital necessity by the DRA leadership, which has just put forward a new package of initiatives for the implementation of a policy of nationwide reconciliation in the country. Its underlying principles are simple and understandable by everyone. They are: a cease-fire; rejection of armed struggle and bloodshed in solving questions of Afghanistan's present and future; ensuring fair representation of the whole people in the political structure and economic life; rejection of persecution for previous political activity; universal amnesty; preserving and augmenting historical, national, and cultural traditions; and respect for the Islamic religion. According to the DRA leadership's proposal, national reconciliation begins with a cease-fire to be proclaimed on a nationwide scale as of 15 January this year.

Even London's conservative newspaper THE TIMES noted in connection with this development of events that "never before have hopes been so high regarding the settlement of the war" against Afghanistan. To judge by press reports, a similar stance has been taken by leaders of many countries who will participate in the forthcoming Kuwait [ICO] forum. By no means all, however.

Newspapers and news agencies in many Arab states are disseminating reports that some countries are waging an active backstage struggle at the preparatory committee for the ICO summit conference to ensure that it recognizes the leaders of dushman gangs as "legitimate spokesmen of the Afghan people." It is also said that Saudi Arabia heads this "struggle" -- if I may use the expression.

If this is really so, it means nothing but pushing the ICO toward direct support for the U.S. Administration's policy aimed at thwarting a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan and continuing the undeclared war against the Afghan people. Just before the new year, THE WASHINGTON POST, forecasting the White House's foreign policy course, pointed out that it "envisages the possibility of a much more active U.S. role in Afghanistan in 1987." This is precisely what guided Washington's puppets -- in the persons of dushman gang leaders -- to "categorically reject" the present appeal for cease-fire, which was announced with undisguised satisfaction by a U.S. Department of State spokesman. The Syrian newspaper TISHRIN was evidently justified in writing in a recent commentary devoted to the forthcoming summit meeting in Kuwait that "the leaders of some Arab and Muslim states include leaders who have been 'primed' by the Americans and who will by all means hinder the making of correct decisions at the conference for their selfish purposes."

One would, however, like to hope that ultimately the upper hand in the work and the decisions to be made by the ICO conference will be gained not by the selfish purposes of certain leaders but by concern for the national interests of the peoples of countries belonging to the organization. It is they who primarily dictate the need to defuse explosive regional conflicts in order to guarantee stability, peace, and security.

SHEVARDNADZE, IRANIAN ENVOY DISCUSS GULF WAR

LD141754 Moscow TASS in English 1736 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 14 TASS -- Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, foreign minister of the USSR, today received Naser Hayrani-Nobari, ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the USSR, at his request. The talk centered on some issues of Soviet-Iranian relations and the situation in the Middle East, primarily in view of the ongoing Iran-Iraq war.

Eduard Shevardnadze called the ambassador's attention to the statement by the Soviet Government concerning this tragic in its ferocity war. He stressed that the Soviet Union invariably favoured and continues to favour an earliest end of the Iran-Iraq armed conflict, the resolution of disputable issues between Iran and Iraq by peaceful means, through political talks.

PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH INDIA ON POWER INDUSTRY

LD122034 Moscow TASS in English 1920 GMT 12 Jan 87

[Text] New Delhi January 12 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Sergey Karmalito.

A protocol signed in the Indian capital today provides for broader Soviet-Indian mutually advantageous contacts in the power industry in keeping with an agreement on economic and technological cooperation between the two countries, which was concluded during the recent official friendly visit here by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Among other measures, the protocol outlines concrete steps to fulfill a plan to build the Teri hydroelectric project in the foothills of the Himalaya in the north-west of Uttar Pradesh with Soviet assistance. The facility, which will have a 260-meter-high rock-fill dam, will have a combined capacity of 2,400 megawatts.

Another joint project proposed by Indian and Soviet organizations and currently being studied includes the construction of a thermal power station in west Bengal.

The protocol says possible cooperation is also being studied in building two or three thermal power stations on the basis of coal fields in Tamil Nadu and Bihar states in the near future.

Speaking at a news conference here today, Indian Minister of Energy Vasant Sathe put a high value on cooperation with the Soviet Union in developing the power industry, an important sector of his country's economy.

He said this cooperation had already brought good results in such areas as coal mining and oil production and expressed content also with the two countries now entering a stage of large-scale and mutually beneficial cooperation in electricity generation.

Satisfaction was reported at the news conference to have been expressed during talks in New Delhi involving a Soviet delegation led by Anatoliy Mayorets, minister of power development and electrification of the USSR, with the progress of work in Madhya Pradesh to build a 1,260-megawatt thermal power station with the help of the USSR. The first generating unit there is to go on stream this year.

The Soviet delegation today was received by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

LATE REPORT: DRA'S NAJIB ADDRESSES NFF CONGRESS

LD151245 Moscow TASS in English 1237 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Kabul January 15 TASS -- Addressing today the congress of the DRA National Fatherland Front [NFF], Najib, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, stressed that the national reconciliation programme is the most topical, the most vital issue for the party. "We see not only the vital need for national reconciliation, but also its real possibility. The revolutionary power is now strong as never before," Najib stressed. The Soviet Union and Afghanistan have reached agreement to the effect that they will contribute towards creating favourable conditions for the return home of all the Soviet military units, the general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee continued. The actions of the USSR and the DRA directly depend on whether the opposite side reciprocates our steps. We expect common sense, and, above all, an end to all kinds of aggression against our country from the outside, with the granting of international guarantees of its non-resumption from those who forced the war on the people and sponsor armed interference in the DRA's affairs.

VIETNAM TO RELEASE ILLEGAL PRC ENTRANTS

LD132030 Moscow TASS in English 1936 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Hanoi January 13 TASS -- Chinese citizens detained in Vietnam after unlawfully penetrating into the country will be handed over to China on the occasion of the traditional new year celebrated in Vietnam and China according to the lunar calendar.

Vietnam's government decision has been announced by Vietnam's Foreign Ministry spokesman at a meeting with China's ambassador to Vietnam today.

The spokeman said the government's decision had been prompted by humanitarian considerations.

BURMESE INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY REPORTED

PM131257 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Jan 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Anniversary Of Independence"]

[Text] Rangoon, 3 Jan -- On 4 January the Burmese people will be celebrating Indendence Day, the national holiday. It was in 1948 that the country won the right to resolve its own destiny after a long and bloody struggle against the British colonizers.

The colonizers' many years of rule and World War II left the young republic a heavy legacy. In 1962 a new leadership came to power and stated that the country's move toward progress was only possible by means of profound, radical transformations. Foreign and local private banks were nationalized, as was the property of foreign monopolies, which had become rich by plundering Burma's natural wealth. A number of the most important sectors of the economy were placed under state control and restrictions were introduced in the private enterprise sphere.

In the international arena, the republic pursues an independent foreign policy based on the principles of peaceful coexistence and friendship and cooperation with all states. It advocates the ending of the arms race, the prevention of the militarization of space, the banning of all nuclear tests, the elimination of chemical and bacteriological weapons, and a considerable reduction in conventional armaments.

The Soviet Union was among the first to recognize the independent state of Burma. For almost 40 years relations between our countries have invariably been friendly in character. A number of important facilities have been built with technical assistance from the USSR and a broad program of bilateral cultural exchange is being implemented.

SHEVARDNADZE RECEIVES GDR AMBASSADOR 15 JAN

LD151015 Moscow TASS in English 1006 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 15 TASS -- Eduard Shevardnadze, a member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and foreign minister of the USSR, received Gerd Koenig, ambassador of the German Democratic Republic, today in connection with the latter's forthcoming presentation of credentials.

JAPAN'S NAKASONE ARRIVES IN SFRY 14 JAN

LD141821 Moscow TASS in English 1747 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Belgrade January 14 TASS -- Japan's Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone today arrived here on an official visit at the invitation of the collective presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the country's government.

At the airport Nakasone was met by Branko Mikulic, president of the Federal Executive Council, and other officials. Official Yugoslav-Japanese talks are to be held here today. The sides will examine issues pertaining to the development of relations between the two countries, first and foremost in the economic field, and also focus on some urgent international problems, TANJUG news agency reported.

During the visit the Japanese prime minister will meet Sinan Hasani, president of the collective presidency of Yugoslavia.

SED PARTY CULTURE DELEGATION VISITS MOSCOW

PM121418 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jan 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Experience"]

[Text] In accordance with the plan for interparty ties, a group of Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] party workers headed by U. Ragwitz, member of the SED Central Committee and chief of the SED Central Committee Culture Section, was in Moscow 8 through 10 January to familiarize itself with the CPSU's experience of work to fulfill the 27th party congress decisions in the field of culture.

The German comrades had meetings and talks at the CPSU Central Committee Culture Section, the USSR Ministry of Culture, and the USSR Writers' Union, and visited several cultural institutions in the capital.

IZVESTIYA SURVEYS RYZHKOV VISIT TO FINLAND

PM141135 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 4

[N. Ivanov and V. Matveyev dispatch: "On the Basis of Mutual Trust. IZVESTIYA's Special Correspondents Report from Helsinki"]

[Text] N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, was in Finland on a 4-day official visit. A good start to the new year — this is how local mass news media evaluate the results of the visit.

Agreements were signed which elevate the active ties between our two countries to a qualitatively new level. The newspaper UUSI SUOMI, for example, points out that the agreement on cooperation in prompt notification in the event of nuclear accidents is the first such document concluded by the USSR since the September 1986 special session of the IAEA General Conference.

Considerable interest was generated here by the accords on creating joint Soviet-Finnish enterprises in the USSR. At the 8 January news conference in Helsinki, N.I. Ryzhkov was perhaps asked more questions on this subject than on anything else. A new development, and Finland is the West's pioneer in this respect.

New major Soviet orders have been placed. Leaders of the "Wartsila" shipyard in Turku spoke of their importance for ensuring employment and workload when they welcomed the Soviet guest.

Economics and politics are closely interwoven in the dynamics of Soviet-Finnish relations. It is typical that main attention at the very first meeting between N.I. Ryzhkov and President M. Koivisto of Finland was devoted to a discussion of topical international problems. Our two countries successfully interact in this sphere. Practice and experience testify that a given country's specific contribution to the stabilization of the situation in the world depends not on its size but on the degree of its activeness in the struggle to consolidate security. Finland has quite a few positive initiatives and actions to its credit. It is difficult to overestimate, for example, the importance of an issue such as the observance of international treaties and agreements signed by states. This is why the last UN General Assembly session welcomed so positively Finland's proposal to set up a special information center to monitor the observance of international arms limitation treaties by states.

It is almost 25 years since the time when President U.K. Kekkonen of Finland put forward the idea of creating a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe, an idea that was widely welcomed. Since then Finland has been constantly and energetically acting in support of this idea. Last summer a special working group from the Finnish Foreign Ministry prepared a detailed document on this question. It defined the specific steps which Finland's government intends to take for this purpose. It is suggested, in particular, that the region's countries prepare a document on the basic aspects of the idea of creating a nuclear-free zone.

It is appropriate to recall that, speaking on this matter in Helsinki on 1 June 1983, Sweden's Prime Minister O. Palme said: "If we want to overcome the state of deadlock, then small and medium-size states must take the initiative. The furiously accelerating arms race is stifling these countries, too."

On the eve of N.I. Ryzhkov's arrival in Finland, Prime Minister K. Sorsa noted with gratification the practical support given by the Soviet Union to the idea of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe. Today it is more topical than ever before, and the Soviet Union is prepared to continue to support its implementation by practical deeds. This is the idea behind the new steps by the USSR, announced last November by Ye.K. Ligachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, during his visit to Finland.

President M. Koivisto's recent proposal on confidence-building measures in the naval sphere in the same region of our continent is quite important. It is dictated by concern over the preservation of stability.

The following fact is noteworthy: The Western journalists present at the press conference by the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers showed interest in the possibility of extending the practice of Soviet-Finnish cooperation, which has lived up to expectations, so well -- especially in the business sphere, to ensure that other Western countries do not lag behind Finland. It is not up to the Soviet Union, N.I. Ryzhkov pointed out. After all, some Western press organs are still making attempts to confuse the issue by distorting the essence of the equal and mutually advantageous relations prevailing between the USSR and Finland and based on the principles of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems.

Of course, problems can and do emerge, demanding joint efforts for their solution. On the eve of the arrival of the head of Soviet Government here, the Finnish press pointed out the imbalance that has developed in Soviet-Finnish trade. It is well known that the causes of this go beyond the framework of bilateral relations. The issue concerns fluctuations in world oil prices. The newspaper HELSINGIN SANOMAT noted that the difficulties which have developed will be overcome given political good will. Such good will does exist, and both sides express confidence that joint trade will continue to grow. Its physical volume planned for 1987 is higher than ever before.

"The main point is that for many decades already we have been linked by stable relations based on reciprocal trust," the newspaper HUFVUDSTADSBLADET writes, summing up the results of N.I. Ryzhkov's visit.

Trust also means mutual understanding. In the sphere of Soviet-Finnish relations, it is embodied in specific deeds for the benefit of our two countries, the benefit of peace.

FINNISH DAILY REPORTS RYZHKOV NEWS CONFERENCE

PM141241 Helsinki HUFVUDSTADSBLADET in Swedish 9 Jan 87 p 14

[Larserik Haggman report: "The Potential From Trust Is Great"]

[Excerpts] The most important result of the visit to Finland by the head of the Soviet Government is the renewed conviction of how significant the potential deriving from the trust and understanding between the two countries is. [passage omitted on Finnish-Soviet cooperation]

Ryzhkov also noted positive features in the development of relations between the Soviet Union and the other Nordic countries and said that Finland's special position by no means rules out new and improved relations with other Nordic neighbors.

He finds the development of relations with Sweden positive, and he also described the process as positive in relations with Norway, Denmark, and the Netherlands.

In response to a concrete question Ryzhkov declared that the Soviet Union is willing to reach agreements like that with Finland on information about nuclear power with Sweden and Norway. In the case of Norway he made a direct invitation for an agreement.

Ryzhkov described the world situation as alarming and called for new political thinking and forceful measures from all countries. He reiterated the Soviet view of the situation since the Reykjavik summit, confirmed the firmness of the package deal that was proposed there, but was unwilling in any way to close this page in history without expressly adhering to the far-reaching proposals which were put forward there.

Ryzhkov was unwilling to say anything at all about when a new summit, perhaps on neutral territory, could take place between Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev. Instead he called for discussion of the concrete issues involved.

"If we make no progress with them there could be many meetings at various levels," he declared.

Ryzhkov also spoke about the economic reforms currently being carried out in the Soviet Union and described this work as revolutionary and of a fundamental nature. He also stressed that the reforms do not only cover the economy, but also the life of society in the broader sense.

In production he wanted to distinguish between two lines. The planned economy is being preserved among other things to ensure an equal division among the republics, for example, but is also being further developed through greater decentralization.

"However, this independence requires greater responsibility and growing responsibility for results, and is a never-ending process," Ryzhkov said, pointing to last year's result -- a growth rate of 4.9 percent as against between 3 and 3.5 percent in earlier years.

He stressed, however, that these changes do not mean that there is any intention of abandoning the state's monopoly when it comes to foreign trade, even though branches of industry and individual enterprises are able to take direct action.

Here Ryzhkov said that balanced clearing trade [den balanserade clearinghandeln] does not amount to a problem but has ensured the dynamic development of the trade between Finland and the Soviet Union. He did not reply when asked about possible plans to make the ruble convertible.

On the subject of problems in trade Ryzhkov was also asked which products the Soviet Union wants to export in greater quantities and vice versa.

Here he pointed to the need for increased exports of machinery and plant from the Soviet Union and said that the increase has not been as great as desired for two reasons.

"First, people in Finland do not know what we are able to do, and second, what we are able to offer we have marketed badly."

Ryzhkov was also asked a couple of questions about the disturbances in Alma-Ata. In his answers he firmly rejected any alleged link between the fact that the CPSU Central Committee did not meet in December and the unrest in the republic of Kazakhstan.

On the central issue Ryzhkov said that there had been failures in education on nationalities:

"It is obvious that a group of students without any experience of life can see a Russian in the post of first secretary in a multinational republic as something wrong, but this is in no way characteristic of the overall problem of nationalities. It is wrong to generalize."

In connection with a question about opposition to the policy of reform, Ryzhkov said that it is incorrect to talk about opponents. According to Ryzhkov every reform means changes and the practical work is seldom fantastic or ideal.

"When we are now dealing with revolutionary work a new attitude is required, but we will discuss any lack of understanding, but not opposition."

"Not everyone has the capacity to accept the changes; people need training. Those who are unable to accept the changes must stand aside. This is a natural process," Ryzhkov said.

DOBRYNIN RECEIVES UK'S RENTON 14 JAN IN MOSCOW

LD141747 Moscow TASS in English 1732 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 14 TASS -- Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, today received Timothy Renton, British minister of state for Foreign and Commonwealth Office, at the latter's request.

During the conversation, they exchanged views on matters pertaining to Soviet-British relations, including the development of political dialogue between the two countries at governmental and parliamentary levels.

In this connection, the sides touched on problems related, above all, to ensuring peace and security.

PRAVDA INTERVIEWS ANC LEADER OLIVER TAMBO

PM131913 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Jan 87 First Edition p 4

[Interview with Oliver Tambo, president of the African National Congress, by correspondent F. Tarasov: "We Believe in Our Victory" -- date and place not specified -- first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] PRAVDA correspondent F. Tarasov has asked Oliver Tambo, president of the African National Congress (ANC), to describe the current situation in South Africa. The ANC, created in 1912, is a revolutionary democratic organization and forms the vanguard of the South African people's political and armed struggle to eliminate the apartheid system. O. Tambo, who has taken part in this struggle for many decades, has headed the organization since 1967.

More than 2 years ago the stubborn struggle of the oppressed population of South Africa turned into nationwide actions aimed at overthrowing the racist regime. When breaking up rallies and demonstrations, the punitive squads killed more than 2,300 people and threw 23,000 more into jail. The second state of emergency announced in that period has now been in force for more than 6 months, but all to no avail. Despite the use of extreme measures the apartheid regime cannot quell the nationwide movement and cannot even find a way out of the impasse. The authorities have lost control of the situation in a number of regions. Consistent revolutionary confrontation has become the characteristic feature of reality in South Africa today.

The political hurricane which has swept the country is affecting the economy. Local businessmen are investing less and less in South Africa and are seeking ways to send capital abroad. Reports of foreign firms closing their offices here have become increasingly frequent. Inflation is increasing rapidly. The unemployment problem in the country is becoming increasingly acute and for the first time is affecting white sections of the population, which is extremely significant. In the last 50 years South African whites have never been unable to find work. I would stress that the political crisis is aggravating the economic problems of the country's capitalist system to the limit.

The racist regime is also using certain concessions to try to contain the mass protests. It has given broad publicity to a series of reforms and has partially implemented them. And it must be said that they could have the effect of checking the rising antiracist wave but they are at least two generations too late. They were proposed at a time when the people were already convinced that apartheid had to be destroyed.

For instance, the racist legislators have adopted a new constitution which, for the first time, allows Indians and "coloreds" their own representatives in parliament. But both the Indians and the coloreds have rejected this maneuver since even under the new constitution power remains fully in the white minority's hands.

The racists have also tried other ways of splitting the opposition forces. They have thought of creating a black bourgeoisie based on the bantustans [independent tribal states] and of forming a buffer between the white rulers and the impoverished masses. But the small-scale black businessmen encouraged by the whites have not become the regime's allies. In conditions of legalized political inequality of rights, they remain victims of racial discrimination and have inevitably become part of the movement for democratic transformations.

Anticommunist propaganda continues to abound. It must be said that this has never made any impression on the black population. It is directed mainly at South Africa's White minority and is also intended for countries in the West. Pretoria's anticommunism helped to give rise to the infamous U.S. doctrine of "constructive engagement," which has now been completely discredited.

Constantly stepping up their punitive operations against the people, the Pretoria authorities are resorting to recruiting black soldiers into their army. And they are using these young black recruits to try to equip themselves with an equivalent of the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] bandits in Angola, the terrorists of the so-called "Mozambique National Resistance," or the regular military formations in Namibia created to conduct armed actions against SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization]. But the people's response to repression is to increase their resistance.

New threats of economic and even military repression are issuing from Pretoria against Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Botswana. The aim of this is to intimidate and destabilize those countries, which oppose apartheid. South Africa's threats conceal serious intentions. Recent events show that the racist regime not only helps mercenary gangs to carry out raids into neighboring countries but also sends its own armed forces and advisers in support of them. And this is happening on an ever-increasing scale. I believe that world public opinion should take new steps to defend South Africa's neighbors. This would be in line with helping those fighting apartheid the South Africa itself.

All-embracing economic sanctions against South Africa would be of great significance. But they are opposed by those Western circles which cooperate with the apartheid regime and derive vast profits from the cruel exploitation of the South African people. One-fourth of Britain's Conservative MP's have financial interests in South Africa and more than 70 MP's are directors or consultants of the 85 companies which have invested capital in South Africa.

Attempts are being made to convince public opinion that by destroying the economy sanctions will cause greater harm to the blacks than to the regime, and will doom blacks to unemployment. But what else can a man lose if his fate is wholly at the mercy of racists? Millions of people have no work anyway. I would recall that black leaders, in particular leaders of working class trade unions, are calling for the imposition of sanctions. The leaders of South Africa's neighbors have also advocated sanctions.

We note with satisfaction that the appeal for sanctions is supported by the working class throughout the world, and in the Western countries where this appeal is being sabotaged the working class is pressuring governments to join in with them.

This January the ANC -- the organizer of the people's struggle against racism -- will be marking its 75th anniversary. At our jubilee we shall recall that the number of armed operations against the regime by Umkhonto we Sizwe -- the ANC's military wing -- has more than tripled recently, that our working class is capable of organizing strike actions against apartheid involving more than 300,00 workers, and that 30,000-50,000 African patriots march in funeral demonstrations for the victims of the punitive squads. We are approaching the portentous date full of confidence in the victory ahead. We are struggling for the creation of a democratic state which will have no room for racism and which will guarantee equal rights for all citizens.

I should like to dwell on a question of importance for us all -- the question of human rights. In South Africa the problem is that of imperialism's glaring crime not so much against individual people as against a whole people, against mankind, against humanitarianism. The West, as is well known, likes to expatiate about human rights. And yet you do not hear of Washington, London, or Paris organizing a protest campaign against the monstrous violations of those human rights by apartheid's ringleaders.

The problem of war and peace is a particular one for us. Within the system of racial discrimination there is a fierce battle underway -- the racists' undeclared war against the people. The continuation of their rule is directly contrary to the cause of peace. The question is to replace the apartheid system and thereby restore peace. We understand the price of peace and for that reason struggle for a society without apartheid or brutality and for a democratic South Africa.

I should like to use this opportunity to again express heartfelt gratitude to the CPSU and the Soviet people for their unfailing support for the struggling people of South Africa.

Our struggle is most directly connected with the struggle of all the peoples for peace because the destruction of apartheid will lead to the elimination of a center of tension in southern Africa.

On the international plane we regard ourselves as a unit of forces struggling against the threat of nuclear war, which would destroy everything on earth including our hope for a dignified life. We follow with admiration the Soviet Union's persistent struggle for international security. More and more people are behind you. We rate highly the proposals put forward in Reykjavik by M.S. Gorbachev. The USSR's initiatives are a blow to imperialism and the supporters of the arms race, and breathe new life into the world peace movement.

PALLAYEV LEADS DELEGATION TO TOGO CELEBRATIONS

LD131244 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Festivities have begun in the Togo capital of Lome to mark National Liberation Day, which the Republic is celebrating for the 20th time. Delegations from almost 30 countries have arrived for the jubilee celebrations. The Soviet delegation is led by Pallayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

BRIEFS

PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH ZAMBIA -- Lusaka December 30 TASS -- A protocol on exchanges in the field of television and radio broadcasting has been signed in Lusaka today between the USSR Gosteleradio (state television and radio) and Zambia's radio broadcasting service. It provides for an exchange of TV and radio programmes, exchanges of delegations and assistance in covering important events in the Soviet Union and Zambia. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 0956 GMT 30 Dec 86 LD]

SPORTS PROTOCOL WITH ETHIOPIA -- A protocol has been signed in Addis Ababa on further developing cooperation between athletic organizations in the USSR and Ethiopia. Soccer, volleyball, and other contests are envisaged, and specialists in the area of physical culture will be sent to Ethiopia as will gymnastics and volleyball trainers. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0000 30 Dec 86 LD]

RYZHKOV, CUBAN FIGURES DISCUSS BILATERAL ISSUES

LD141204 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1130 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow, 14 Jan (TASS) -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, today received Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee Politburo, deputy chairman of the State Council and of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, who is in Moscow on a working visit, Julio Camacho Aguilera, member of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and ambassador of the Cuban Republic to the USSR, and Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas Ruiz.

In a cordial, friendly atmosphere, opinions were exchanged on issues of Soviet-Cuban cooperation in various spheres, and how to improve and deepen it in the light of the tasks set at the recent working meeting of leaders of communist and workers' parties of the fraternal socialist CEMA member states.

On behalf of the Cuban leadership, C.R. Rodriguez and J. Camacho expressed gratitude to the CPSU, the government, and people of the Soviet Union for their tendering of all-round support to the Republic of Cuba.

N.I. Ryzhkov confirmed the devoted solidarity of the Soviet people with the fraternal Cuban people.

Taking part in the conversation were N.V. Talyzin, candidate member of CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee, and V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

SHEVARDNADZE RECEIVES VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR

LD131236 Moscow TASS in English 1219 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS -- Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR foreign minister, has received today Ambassador of Venezuela to the USSR E. Soto Alvarez at his request. Views were exchanged on issues pertaining to the Soviet-Venezuelan relations as well as some international problems, including the situation in Central America. The USSR and Venezuela expressed their determination to contribute towards a peaceful political settlement of the conflict situation here without any interference from the outside, on the basis of respect for the rights of the peoples of the region to choose independently their way of development. A positive appraisal has been given of the constructive efforts by the Contadora Group countries and those of the group of support going in that direction.

E. Soto Alvarez spoke highly of the USSR's major foreign policy initiatives directed at creating a durable international security system, ensuring nuclear-free world. The meeting proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

OFFICIALS CENSURED FOR HEATING BREAKDOWNS

LD150022 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee has examined cases of interruptions in the heat supply to the population of towns in Gorkiy and Murmansk Oblast. The adopted decision notes that the Gorkiy and Murmansk Obkoms of the CPSU as well as oblispolkoms had an irresponsible attitude toward the winter preparation of the towns' power utilities and municipal services.

Many important measures outlined in accordance with the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee and geared toward the maintenance of vital supplies to the population and stable work of the national economy in winter have been upset. As a result, electric power supplies and thermal supply networks in a number of places have broken down due to severe frosts, which has made life very difficult for people.

The USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification, the RSFSR Ministry of Housing and Municipal Services and other central bodies have not implemented the necessary supervision, nor have they given the necessary assistance to subdepartmental organizations in conducting repairs and preventive works.

On 7 January in Gorkiy, there was a breakdown on one of the main heat supply lines, which left a large housing estate without heat in conditions of low outdoor temperatures. The Gorkiy Obkom and the Oblispolkom, knowing that the heat supply line was unreliable, did not ensure that it was replaced in good time.

The USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification and the RSFSR Ministry of Housing and Municipal Services had a formal attitude toward the requests by the Gorkiy Obkom that the reliability of heat supplies to towns should be increased. The RSFSR Council of Ministers also reacted with unacceptable slowness to the critical situation which arose in the town.

In the town of Severomorsk, Murmansk Oblast, as a result of negligence and lack of concern on the part of officials in preparing municipal utilities for winter, the TETS broke down, leading to the heating of a considerable number of blocks of flats and public amenities being switched off.

The Murmansk Obkom and Oblispolkom did not carry out the necessary supervision in these areas. Cases like this, in conditions of restructuring, discredit everything that the party has been doing in the interests of the Soviet people.

The CPSU Central Committee has severely reprimanded Comrade Khristoradnov, first secretary of the Gorkiy Obkom, and Comrade Kapitanets, commander of the Northern Fleet, for their lack of discipline in implementing the CPSU decisions and for their irresponsible attitude toward preparation of housing and municipal utilities for work in winter conditions.

Severe party penalties have been imposed on Comrade Sokolov, chairman of the Gorkiy Oblispolkom, Comrade (Marchenkov), chairman of the Gorkiy Gorispolkom, Comrade Popov, RSFSR minister of housing and municipal services, and Comrade Makukhin, USSR first deputy minister of power and electrification.

The named leaders have been warned that they bear personal responsibility for the total elimination of the consequences of breakdowns in the shortest time possible.

The CPSU Central Committee has demanded that the party committees of ministries should give an appraisal on the leading workers of the apparatus who showed lack of concern in fulfilling the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee with regard to questions of preparing the national economy for winter, and who were lethargic in assisting local bodies to eliminate the consequences of the breakdowns. The leaders of the USSR State Planning Committee, of the USSR State Committee for Material and Technical supply, of the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification, and of the RSFSR Council of Ministers have been instructed to examine questions submitted by Gorkiy and Murmansk Obkoms with regard to the increase of reliability in the functioning of the national economy in these oblasts within 1 month.

The CPSU Central Committee has drawn attention to the fact that, because of indiscipline and negligence on the part of officials, because of untimely carrying out of repairs and preventive work, and because of insufficient allocation of material resources to municipal services, there have been interruptions in the heat supply in Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Vitebsk, Volgograd, the Latvian SSR and Karelian ASSR. Local party committees must be extremely vigilant and guided by principle in their appraisal of these phenomena. The Central Committee demanded that the USSR State Planning Committee, the USSR State Committee for Material and Technical Supply, the RSFSR Council of Ministers, central Committees of Union republican communist parties, kraykoms, and obkoms, ministries and departments should deduce serious conclusions from what happened and should take urgent measures toward the repair and replacement of heat supply systems and worn equipment, for the increased reliability of heat supply networks and for the prevention of interruptions in the work of the municipal economy. It was stressed that it is necessary to ensure good organization and order in housing and municipal services, to increase educational work among labor collectives in power and transport enterprises and to show more concern for the needs of the workers in this area.

Ministers Konarev, Lemayev, Mayorets, Chernomyrdin, Shchadov have been warned that they bear personal responsibility for uninterrupted fuel supplies to every power station and boiler house in every town and settlement in the country.

PRAVDA NOTES GEORGAIN OFFICIALS CENSURED

PM141541 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Jan 87 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "At the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee. On Serious Shortcomings in the Implementation of Party and Government Decisions on Improving the Training and Utilization of Specialists With Higher and Secondary Sepcialized Education in the Georgian SSR"]

[Text] A check carried out by the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee has revealed serious shortcomings in the implementation of party and government decisions on the further development of higher and secondary specialized education, the enhancement of the quality of training and education of students and pupils, and better utilization of VUZ and technical college graduates in the Georgian SSR.

Having examined the results of the check and heard the explanations of republic organization leaders, the Party Control Committee noted that the considerable potential of higher and secondary sepcialized educational establishments created in the republic is not geared to the maximum satisfaction of the fast-growing needs of the national economy for specialists and the solution of tasks of accelerating scientific and technical progress.

The Ministry of Higher and Secondary Sepcialized Education (the minister is CPSU member Comrade D.I. Chkhikvishvili), the republic Gosplan (the chairman is CPSU member Comrade O.G. Bardzelashvili), and the leaders of certain other ministries and departments do not study in depth the various sectors' requirements for specialists with higher and secondary education and make miscalculations and errors in planning their training.

As a result more specialists than are needed are being trained in a number of fields such as architecture, geology, economic cybernetics, history, psychology, mathematics, physics, and some others, while in fields such as machine building and instrument making, electronic engineering, electrical instrument building and automation equipment, radio engineering, communications, power engineering, and metallurgy considerably fewer specialists than are needed are being trained.

Mistakes in planning have resulted in a situation where a large number of graduates from higher and secondary specialized educational establishments are not allocated jobs corresponding to the qualifications they have acquired. In 1981-85 around 10 percent of VUZ graduates, more than 39 percent of graduates from secondary specialized educational establishments, and almost 50 percent of all trained teachers were not allocated jobs according to the plan. Many graduates do not report to their assigned places of work. The practice of independent job placement is widespread. More than 55,000 people with higher and secondary specialized education are not employed in social production. Many of them lead idle and sometimes parasitic lives.

The organization of the teaching process and the standard of educational work at many VUZ's and technical colleges do not meet present-day demands. The introduction of progressive teaching forms and methods is proceeding too slowly. Lectures are frequently of a low professional, ideological, and theoretical standard. Dogmatism has still not been eradicated in the organization of seminars and production practice stints. At some educational establishments, including the Tbilisi State University (the rector is CPSU member Comrade N.S. Amaglobeli) programs and manuals for course and diploma planning which date back to 1972-76 are still being used in the teaching process. Students and technical college pupils are inadequately provided with textbooks and methodological literature, especially for sociopolitical disciplines and general science and general engineering courses.

The necessary measures to reinforce the material and technical base of educational establishments and to equip lecture halls, classrooms, laboratories, and study rooms with the necessary scientific instruments, equipment, and technical teaching aids have not been adopted. The available computer equipment at VUZ's covers only 20 percent of the computer time necessary to resolve practical study tasks. And much of the equipment is obsolete.

The academic pass rate at VUZ's for all forms of education totaled 81.6 percent in 1985. The pernicious practice of allowing students who have not completed their course work to go on to the next stage still occurs. One in four students at the Tbilisi Medical Institute achieved unsatisfactory results at intermediate examinations in 1986. One in ten graduates from the Tbilisi and Sukhumi State Universities was not admitted to or failed to pass the state examinations.

There has been no noticeable restructuring in the teaching of social science disciplines. [paragraph continues]

It does not meet the party's demands for strengthening of the link between theory and practice, and this has a negative impact on the political maturity of some students and is not conducive to instilling high moral standards and stimulating social activeness. In 1986, 40.8 percent of students achieved only mediocre results in the state examinations in scientific communism.

Various offenses are committed by students and pupils, and cases of drunkenness, hooliganism, and immoral conduct are eradicated too slowly. Drug addiction has spread.

The leaders of the republic Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education and of many VUZ's have failed to ensure an increase in the effectiveness of scientific research. Over 50 percent of the economic contracts for scientific research work are not related to the solution of priority tasks in the acceleration of socioeconomic development or tasks under unionwide or republic scientific and technical programs.

The insufficient involvement of students in scientific research work is not conducive to molding in them habits of creative, enterprising work. Only one in five students attending day courses takes part in the implementation of planned scientific research.

At a number of educational establishments insufficient attention is paid to the solution of social questions. Only 50 percent of students and 40 percent of technical college pupils are allocated places in student hostels. Canteens and snack bars are more than 5,000 seats short.

The republic Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education's leaders are restructuring the style and methods of work in the light of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) and June (1986) Plenums too slowly and have failed to adopt effective measures to ensure the staffing of VUZ's and technical colleges with highly qualified professors and teaching staff and to ensure a correct mix of experienced and talented young personnel, including people with sound production training. Despite the fact that there are 360 doctors of science, only half the VUZ departments are headed by people with top scientific qualifications. There is a shortage of teachers with scientific degrees and titles at the Kutaisi Polytechnic Institute, the Telavi Teacher Training Institute, and the Tbilisi Foreign Language Teacher Training Institute. Of 620 postgraduate students only 74 people defended candidate of sciences dissertations in 1981-85.

The republic party and soviet organs have failed to display great exactingness to ensure the implementation of party and government decisions on the development of higher and secondary specialized education and improved planning of the training and utilization of young specialists in the national economy.

The CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee has severely reprimanded CPSU member Comrade D.I. Chkhikvishvili, Georgian SSR minister of higher and secondary specialized education, for poor organizational work to eliminate shortcomings in the teaching and educational process at VUZ's and technical colleges, strengthen their material and technical base, and create the requisite living conditions for students and staff. The attention of CPSU member Comrade O.G. Bardzelashvili, chairman of the Georgian SSR Gosplan, was drawn to the serious mistakes in planning the training of specialists at the republic's higher and secondary educational establishments.

Note was taken of a statement by Comrade G.N. Yenukidze, secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, Comrade Z.A. Chkheidze, first deputy chairman of the Georgian SSR Council of Ministers, and Comrade F.I. Peregudov, USSR first deputy minister of higher and secondary specialized education, that, in accordance with the decision of the 27th CPSU Congress, measures will be implemented to radically improve the training of specialists at higher and secondary specialized educational establishments and their rational utilization in the national economy.

GROMYKO PRESENTS CHERNOBYL AWARDS 14 JAN

LD141448 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1315 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow, 14 Jan (TASS) -- Today in Kremlin, A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, handed over high state awards to participants in the complex and crucial work on eliminating the accident at the Chernobyl Nuclear Plant, who were honored with the titles of the Hero of the Soviet Union and the Hero of Socialist Labor.

The order of Lenin and the Gold Star medal were received by Lieutenant Colonel L.P. Telyatnikov of the internal services, Major General Aviation N.T. Antoshkin, and Colonel General V.K. Pikalov. The Order of Lenin and the gold medal "Hammer and Sickle" was received by V.I. Zavediy, team leader, machine operator of concrete pumps; G.D. Lykov, chief of construction directorate; Yu.N. Samoylenko, deputy production shop chief at the Rostov AES which is under construction; A.N. Usanov, deputy USSR Minister of medium machine-building.

Having presented the orders and medals, A.A. Gromyko said:

Dear Comrades!

Today the homeland is honoring people who have performed a remarkable feat -- those who displayed heroism in eliminating the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl AES.

Yes, Chernobyl was paid; we shared together. But it has become a symbol of the victory of Soviet man over the elements.

And today we pay due tribute to all those who made a worthy contribution to the solution of this extremely difficult and responsible task, and who performed acts of heroism in so contributing.

First of all, I want to note that this feat is a mass feat, a feat of the whole people.

The feat at Chernobyl means the heroism of our fire-fighters who extinguished the death-dealing fire; of our servicemen, who are constantly in the front line in the fight against the radiation; and of our builders, who successfully completed work unique in practical experience, whether in our country or throughout the world, to safeguard the wrecked generating set.

The lesson of Chernobyl is that, in conditions of further implementation of scientific and technological progress, we must bring to the fore the questions of machinery's reliability, its safety, and questions of discipline, order and organization.

The most stringent requirements are needed everywhere and in everything in order for the atom to serve mankind unfailingly to peaceful ends.

This lesson has also highlighted the necessity of taking urgent measures for the future on an international basis as well. Experience of other accidents which have occurred in various countries, and of which we are well aware, also require such measures.

The proposals presented by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on the setting up of an international regime for the safe development of nuclear power has met with a wide response throughout the world. Appropriate international conventions have already been signed.

As you see, the selfless labor of all who can say with pride, "I was at Chernobyl," has a further dimension -- the international dimension. Tens upon tens of millions of people in countries near and far have followed with hope your shock work. What you have done meets with a response of profound gratitude in their hearts too.

At the same time our party renders due tribute to each individual. There are no nameless heroes. Each of them has his own face, his own character, his own specific exploit.

This is why a large group of those who took part in the clash with the elements has been awarded orders and medals. But today, awards have been presented to those on whom the title of Hero has been conferred.

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Government, I warmly congratulate you, and in your person, all who have been awarded for participation in that unprecedentedly strenous work.

Today, the country honors Heroes of the Soviet Union Leonid Petrovich Telyatnikov, Nikolay Timofeyevich Antoshkin and Vladimir Karpovich Pikalov.

There were 28 firemen who were first to go into the flames of Chernobyl and to face the raging nucler elements. Their feat shall not be forgotten. Selflessly, not sparing a thought for themselves, they performed their duty to the end. The gold medal of the Hero, received by you, Leonid Petrovich, today, reflects with the achievement of all comrades of your group.

The operations of our airmen were led with confidence by Air Force Major General Nikolay Timofeyevich Antoshkin. Disregarding danger, he displayed high personal qualities and lively creative initiative in carrying out the responsible missions that were entrusted to the Air Force in the area of the accident.

One of the first to arrive at Chernobyl was Colonel General Vladimir Karpovich Pikalov, chief of the chemical troops of the Ministry of Defense of the USSR. A man with front line experience who was wounded three times during the years of the war, he is capable of appreciating life. Hardly anyone knew the degree of risk at Chernobyl better than he did, a man who has studied radiation for dozens of years. Nevertheless he personally headed a group of very brave people who took part in the most complex operations in the neighborhood of the dangerous generating set. Under extreme conditions he took park in the working out of solutions to eliminate the accident. Even in May of last year, troops under his command ensured a sharp change for the better in the situation.

Our country today praises Heroes of Socialist Labor Viktor Ivanovich Zavediy, Gennadiy Dmitriyevich Lykov, Yuriy Nikolayevich Samoylenko, and Aleksandr Nikolayevich Usanov.

Viktor Ivanovich Zavediy's team achieved record indicators for laying concrete. The team leader showed himself a talented collective leader. He inspired his comrades by his personal example to carry out one of the most responsible tasks in the accident region with utmost speed.

Gennadiy Dmitriyevich Lykov was in charge of building the installation to entomb the unit which had suffered the accident. Through this man's efforts a high level of work organization was attained and the responsible construction work was rapidly accomplished.

It is necessary to say a good word about Yuriy Nikolayevich Samoylenko. He successfully headed a group on one of the most difficult sections -- the work to deactivate the cover of the stricken power unit.

Alkeksandr Nikolayeivch Usanov, deputy USSR minister of medium machine-building, was present at the site of the accident from its very first days. He led and directly participated in the development of a unique project on mothballing the faulty unit and in setting up three-shift work at the construction site, which made it possible to seal that unit within the prescribed timeframe.

All who have been honored with lofty awards for eliminating the consequences of the accident are people of enormous personal courage.

I would like to dwell on one more thing today. The Soviet Union has been continuing its moratorium on nuclear explosions even after 1 January, 1987, until the first nuclear explosion is staged by the Americans. You are all well aware our stance in that respect.

It is believed that silence does not echo. But politics is not physics. The silence at the Soviet Union's nuclear test-grounds has an enormous echo, which is heard in remotest corners of the planet.

Chernobyl provides a warning in its own way; in its own way it is an appeal to the United States: "Think again, join in with the Soviet moratorium. The world wants to hear quiet!"

Comrades, your selfless and heroic labor has earned you the profound respect and gratitude of the whole Soviet poeple in the service of the Motherland, and you are an example for our young people.

In conclusion may I convey to you all, and also to your families and friends, the very best wishes from Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev personally, and on behalf of the whole of the Soviet leadership.

The recipients of the awards warmly thanked the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers for the high awards, and gave assurances that they were prepared to fulfill any task set by the Motherland.

"I regard this lofty award as a recognition of the merits of the fire service, and of the courage and selflessness of its men and officers who protect social property," Lieutenant Colonel L.P. Telyatnikov noted.

"It was for this that my comrades gave their lives, it is for this that thousands of others stand guard in various parts of our great country."

"Not one pilot diverted from his course at Chernobyl, not one expert of the ground-based service left his post without being ordered to," Major General N.T. Antoshkin reported. "The events at Chernobyl showed that the party, the people and the army are truly united," said Colonel General V.K. Pikalov, on behalf of the chemical troops.

"A very great deal of work has been done," Yu.N. Samoylenko emphasized. "The first and second units of the Chernobyl AES have now been started up. A unique feat of engineering construction has been performed: The stricken unit has been sealed off and does not represent a danger for those in the surrounding area. And the result of the work is that you can see that Chernobyl has been reborn."

"Allow me to express my thanks to the ministries and departments," A.N. Usanov stated, "which performed the tasks of creating new machinery and ensuring its delivery to the scene of the accident in a very short time. People worked with this machinery and coped with their tasks with honor in highly complex conditions of radiation. I also want to thank the departments that guaranteed a continuous supply of materials and articles for Chernobyl. Our special thanks go to the Party Central Committee, the emergency group of the Central Committee Politburo and the Soviet Government, which have been and are dealing every day, every hour, with the problems of eliminating the conequences of the accident at the Chernobyl AES. [no closing quotation mark as received]

In attendance when the decorations were presented were P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; N.I. Savinkin and I.P. Yastrebov, heads of CPSU Central Committee departments, and T.I. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

SHCHERBITSKIY, DOLGIKH ATTEND KIEV CONFERENCE

AU141309 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 10 Jan 87 p 1

[RATAU report: "A New City Is To Be Built for Power Industry Workers -- A Conference in Kiev Discusses the Questions of Planning and Building the City of Slavutich"]

[Text] The construction of the city of Slavutich for the permanent residence of power industry workers is an important component of the large-scale program for eliminating the effects of the accident at the Chernobyl AES. The city will be built in the area of Nedanchichi Village, Chernigov Oblast, for the most part within the next two years. It is calculated for a population of 20,000 and in the long term, 30,000. A number of USSR ministries and departments, as well as construction organizations of the RSFSR, the Ukraine, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia have been engaged in the planning and construction of the new city.

The ways to hasten the construction of the city of Slavutich, to create the production base necessary, to ensure comprehensive construction, and to coordinate the actions of all interested parties were discussed at a conference which was held in Kiev on 8 January.

A report on city development solutions and on the elaboration of planning documents was made by I.N. Ponomarev, chairman of the State Committee for Civil Construction and Architecture. [paragraph continues]

He said that 34 planning organizations with the Kiev Zonal Scientific Research Institute for the Model and Experimental Planning of Houses and Public Buildings [ZNIIEP] as the chief planner participated in the undertaking. It took them less than three months instead of the two years allowed by the norm to produce working drawings for houses, public and cultural facilities, and the city's engineering lines of communication. All the technical documents have now been handed over to the USSR Ministry of Atomic Power as the customer, and the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification as the contractor.

The general plan for the city of Slavutich envisages various types of dwellings: both multistoried houses, and cottages with household plots and an entire set of facilities for social purposes. The plan has been worked out in such a way as to preserve the existing forest as much as possible and to make use of it for providing green belts. It has been envisaged to separate pedestrian traffic from that of automobiles, and to concentrate all cultural and consumer service establishments in the city center.

Yu. N. Korsun, USSR deputy minister of power and electrification, spoke about preparations for large-scale operations at the construction site of the future city. More than 2,000 people are working there already, he said, and a shift settlement, Yakor, has been provided for the builders. Work has begun to build facilities for concrete and mortar mixing, and grounds have been assigned and equipped for freight handling. At the same time, there are individual cases of lack of coordination. Great attention has to be paid to the well-timed supply of engineering equipment and structural parts to the construction site. Efforts should be made to streamline supplies from the very beginning. This largely depends on the efforts of the functionaries of the USSR and Ukrainian State Committees for the Material Supply of the National Economy.

V.A. Brezhnev, USSR minister of transport construction, tackled the construction of a railroad network in the area of the future city. He emphasized the need to hasten the work to provide tracks for fast train services matching the growing volume of transportation. And the Ministry of Transport Construction is working to settle this problem.

An account of the measures taken to hasten the construction of Slavutich was given by Ye. V. Bortnikov, deputy minister of construction in southern regions of the USSR; Yu. G. Losev, first deputy minister of construction in the northern and western regions of the USSR. P. Ye Yesipenko, Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman; Yu. I. Kedishvili, Georgian Council of Ministers deputy chairman; D. M. Asanov, Azerbaijane Council of Ministers deputy chairman; G. A. Ayrapetyan, Armenian Council of Ministers deputy chairman; V. A. Kazanavichius, Lithuanian Council of Ministers deputy chairman; N. V. Denisenko, Latvian Council of Ministers deputy chairman; and P. K. Palu, Estonian Council of Ministers deputy chairman.

Those participating in the discussion were: B. Ye Shcherbina, USSR Council of Ministers deputy chairman; A. P. Lyashko, Ukrainian Council of Ministers chairman; B. F. Lukonin, USSR minister of atomic power; B. V. Kachura, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee secretary, and L. I. Palazhchenko, Chernigov Obkom first secretary.

The conference was addressed by V. V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, and V. I. Dolgikh, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and secretary. It was emphasized that, in the work carried out to eliminate the effects of the accident at the Chernobyl AES, an new stage has come, a stage that is no less important and complex. To ensure that the AES collective is efficient and stable in its work, it is necessary to create a new city for power industry workers. It is important to hasten all works and to see to it that their quality is high. This is a responsible commission given by the party and the government.

Party and administrative organs of union republics have an important role in carrying it out. It is highly important to set up efficient construction collectives, to coordinate the efforts of all participants in the construction, and to make them cooperate smoothly. The pressing requirement is to cut short the organizational period in order to preclude delays in implementing the planned measures and to rule out arrears. It is also essential from the very beginning to establish a wide and strict supervision by the planners [avtorskiy]. This will bring the birth of the new city on the Dnepr closer, a city that will be a home for the Chernobyl power industry workers.

On 9 January V.I. Dolgikh, CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate member and secretary, visited the Ye. O. Paton Electrowelding Institute of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, and familiarized himself with the work on developing and putting in production advanced technologies, equipment, and materials.

On the same day, a conversation was held in the headquarters of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

OFFICIALS ADDRESS MEETINGS ON 1986 WORK RESULTS

LD102217 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] Attaining the targets of social and economic acceleration in the country and restructuring in all areas is at the center of attention of all Soviet people. Ways of increasing the effectiveness of the national economy, of strengthening organization and discipline and other very important problems at the present stage of the country's development were discussed at meetings of party, local soviet, trade union and Komsomol aktivs of Leningrad, Belorussia, Moldavia, and Estonia. The results of work in 1986 were discussed and socialist pledges for 1987 were adopted.

Speaking at the meeting in Leningrad was comrade Solovyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom; in Minsk, Comrade Slyunkov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee; in Kishinev Comrade Grossu, first secretary of the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee; and in Tallinn, Comrade Vayno, first secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee.

ALIYEV PARTICIPATES IN RAILWAY TU CONGRESS

LD141736 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] A program of improving the work of railways and their further development is being discussed by delegates to the 24th Congress of Rail Transport and Transport Construction Workers' Trade Union. It opened in Moscow today. The workers of the industry are facing high targets. For example, by the end of the 5-year plan the railmen intend to achieve the world's highest level in labor productivity. Not only do they have to maintain their tempo, but they also have to increase it in every way. The delegates are going to elect their leading bodies, auditing commission and delegates to the 18th USSR Trade Union Congress.

Comrade Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Comrade Pasternak, head of the CPSU Central Committee Transport and Communications Department; and Comrade Shalayev, AUCCTU chairman, are taking part in the work of the congress.

FURTHER ON KOLBIN ADDRESS TO KAZAKH SOVIET AKTIV

PM141633 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS dispatch: "Working More Purposefully, With Bigger Returns"]

[Text] Alma-Ata, 13 Jan -- For adminstrative work to become a vital necessity of all members of the Soviet society it is necessary to achieve a substantial increase in the social activeness of the working people and to radically improve the style and methods of the work of Soviets, ispolkoms, and every deputy. This was discussed today at a conference of the aktiv of workers in the republic's soviets which examined tasks in the restructuring of the work of people's deputies in view of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Measures to Further Enhance the Role and Increase the Responsibility of Soviets of People's Deputies in the Acceleration of the Socioeconomic Development in the Light of the Decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress." Participants were addressed by G.V. Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee.

It was emphasized at the conference that not all organs of people's power are as yet fully exercising their increased rights or showing due concern for accelerating further progress. Improving international and patriotic education, stepping up the struggle against unearned income, drunkenness, and other shortcomings feature among the most important tasks. Many people find it difficult to break away from stereotype approaches and old yardsticks, they display inertia and inconsistency, and side-step the solution of specific problems, including such topical problems as the housing and the food problem.

In order to eliminate these and other shortcomings, it was pointed out at the conference, it is necessary to discard old criteria in the assessment of the activity of the organs of people's power. The effectiveness of this activity must be judged by the end results of the work of enterprises, organizations, and departments, by the improved well-being of the people, by the standard to which the material, spiritual, and cultural requirements of the working people are satisfied. This can be achieved only if we stop feigning restructuring and turn creative questing into a vital need of all soviets, ispolkoms, and every people's deputy.

AZERBAIJAN AUDITORS SEEK TO IMPROVE WORK

NC121100 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1700 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] The auditing commissions of the party organizations held a republic-level meeting in the Dzerzinskiy Club in Baku today. Efforts to further consolidate and intensify the methods and structures utilized in the commissions' work were discussed. The members of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Auditing Commission, the secretaries of the oblast, city, and rayon party committees, and the chiefs of the general party departments, including the organizational party work department, participated in the meeting.

Comrade Kyamran Bagirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, opened the meeting. Comrade Vasiliy Konovalov, second secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, then read a report.

The report and addresses delivered at the convocation agreed that many auditing commissions have intensified their work in accordance with the decisions adopted by the 27th CPSU Congress and are more effective in carrying out their tasks as a result. However, the level of the work of the auditing commissions does not yet comply with increasing demands. The participants noted that auditing must be more organized and effective and that a change is essential in auditing work. It is also essential to [words indistinct], remove verbosity and formalities, and help the communists to successfully heed party norms and the demands of rules and regulations.

Comrade Bagirov summed up the meeting, while Comrades Mekhtiyev, Musayev, Rasulova, Tatliyev, Akhundov, and Mamedov participated in its work.

ZASLAVSKAYA INTERVIEWED ON SOCIAL ISSUES

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Dec 86 p 2

[Ye. Manucharova, M. Khromchenko interview with Academician T.I. Zaslavskaya: "Service of Man" -- no date or place given]

[Text] Academician T.I. Zaslavskaya's postbag is not a matter of tens and hundreds but of thousands of letters, manuscripts, complaints, proposals and responses to her spoken and written statements. Unfortunately, given the load on the country's leading sociologist, answering each letter is impossible even physically. Head of the Social Problems Department of the USSR Academy of Sciences Siberian Branch Institute of the Economics and Organization of Industrial Production, professor at the Novosibirsk State University, executive editor of a sociology journal and chairman of one and member of six scientific councils of the State Committee for Science and Technology and the USSR Academy of Sciences Siberian Branch: To all this and much else has been added election recently as president of the Soviet Sociology Association.

For today's interview we selected the questions which are put most often by young readers who responded to preceding publications in the paper ("Choice of Strategy" and "Tactics of Change").

[Question] Tatyana Ivanovna, our first question, contrary to commonsense, as they say. In our minds we understand that the rebuilding in the country has to be a complex and lengthy process, but would like everything to be moving more quickly. The ice has been broken, but has the icebreaker started? The rebuilding is proceeding slowly and painfully. Why?

[Answer] What does "slowly" mean? Only 9 months have elapsed since the 27th CPSU Congress, and the April Plenum was little more than 18 months ago. This is altogether insufficient time for historic processes. They are extraordinarily inertial and gather speed, enlisting generations in their movement, frequently over several decades.

Just as comprehensible, however, is also what you call the painfulness of the reconstruction. Whatever question it concerns, all sooner or later comes to the sphere of the "human factor". The cracks which it has caused in the present structure of our life in one way or another pass through man, who is simultaneously both object and subject of all changes in the country.

[Question] In that case it makes sense, obviously, to switch from questions of the economy, production and economic mechanisms to a discussion of the situation in which the "human factor" has found itself.

[Answer] You wish to embrace the unfounded...? It cannot be. It is not only the reconstruction which is complex--man himself participating therein and creating it is complex, contradictory and extraordinarily varied. As M.S. Gorbachev said in his speech in Krasnodar, initially many people thought that the new situation concerned only the upper strata: They had to change their activity somewhat. It is now becoming increasingly clear -- if not to everyone as yet, to the majority -- that all members of society and every citizen must reorganize. But has each of us, regardless of whether in the "upper" or "lower" echelon, the ability, is he able, does he know how to revise his position, views, approaches and evaluations? And, what is most important, does he want to? Some people, for example, suffer from the notorious shortage, others, thanks only to this, feel themselves "people." Some people have been trained to act solely in accordance with sets of instructions, at the command from above and are prepared to answer only to this "upper stratum". Others in a situation which demands of them unquestioning expedition and obedience dry up in the literal meaning of the word.

[Question] But mindless obedience is incompatible with the position of assertive, active participation in the processes of the reconstruction under way in the country. And in just the same way the fallaciousness of administration by decree as a method of management was proven long since. Consequently, the main thing now is increasing people's independence. In the choice of decisions and determination of the means and methods of work. Is this not so?

[Answer] That's as may be, but, again, it is not everything. There is, after all, psychological inertia also. Independence frightens people unused to displaying initiative and not knowing how to determine goals and balance personal, group and social interests. There are quite a few such people.

Recently an acquaintance of mine, a person with a college education, young, but having already shown himself to be a capable programmer, asked: Tatyana Ivanovna, you write about stimulation of the human factor, and radio and television are talking continually about the need to start the reconstruction with ourselves. But please explain with a specific example. I admit, I have been inspired by the idea of reconstruction and am ready to step up the pace. But what should I and can I be doing? I, where I am? You know that in my institute nothing has stirred, everything has remained as it was: the same director and department leaders, the same cost accounting with fictitious or semi-fictitious contracts. Does it mean that henceforward upon receiving an assignment for the development of a computer program and knowing that virtually the same has already been done by a neighbor I, as an honest and scrupulous person, should announce this for all to hear and join battle with my superiors?

[Question] Why not? Would he not remain in the institute following such an announcement?

[Answer] Such a distressing prospect is not altogether precluded.... Although times are different now, he would remain. But the problem of everyone's participation is really extraordinarily serious. A strict delineation is starting -- either a scrupulous uncompromising position at one's job or.... Here, you will note, the questioner is not looking for the answer in himself, he is waiting for one from me, thereby shifting responsibility for the decision onto someone else, as it were, relieving himself of the choice.

But such a way, if we are speaking about reconstruction in earnest, in terms of the big picture, is wrong to start with. However difficult the decision, one of principle even more so, everyone is obliged on each occasion to make it himself.

[Question] How may representatives of your profession help in the present situation?

[Answer] There are things sociologists can do. And their role is now increasing sharply. But the situation caught sociological work unawares. Not surprisingly, the qualifications of many workers are low. Only 5 percent of them have any kind of sociological education. Attended a course of lectures in the university of Marxism-Leninism, say. About 15 percent more have psychologist's degrees. The remaining places are filled by former philologists, historians, engineers, teachers.

A survey of industrial enterprises' social development services was conducted not that long ago in Siberia, from which the figures to which I am alluding are taken. These services are bogged down by amateurish work and questionnaire-mania, and more than 70 percent of the questionnaires are drawn up by their own efforts, what is more, proceeding from a "local" understanding of sociology. People are doing what they can, only what they can is not enough.

Therefore a most important task of our association, I believe, is collating the experience accumulated in the foremost enterprises of the country, where due attention has long been paid to sociological work, and determining the circulation thereof. There are as yet extremely few such enterprises -- in the tens. But they do exist: in Tiraspol and Moscow, Dnepropetrovsk and Leningrad, say. We would like with their help to conduct an all-union procedural competitive review with the subsequent discussion, selection and publication of procedural recommendations.

[Question] We agree: At the first stage this will help. But it is obvious also that it will not provide solutions of strategic problems. Let us look ahead: What would you like to see the sociology service become? What hopes do you pin on it?

[Answer] It could be called the service of man. It is designed on the one hand to contribute to an improvement in people's work and living conditions and, on the other, to promote a stimulation of their social position.

The point being that the dependable solution of any socioeconomic question ultimately resides in the problem of democracy. And its development largely depends on the level of self-awareness of each member of society. A most important function of our science in this connection is the study and formation of the population's social consciousness. A person must learn to understand his place among those around him and in mutual relations with them and try to balance his interests with the interests of other people and groups and, if necessary, defend them resolutely and uncompromisingly.

As yet, speaking about the social development service, we are not going beyond the "gate" of the businesses, be it plant or large establishment, sovkhoz or kolkhoz. The task of sociology here consists, inter alia, of the democratization of management and the life of the workforce as a whole, but also of an analysis and then the formation of public opinion. It is essential for this to have an idea of people's interests, of the structure and degree of satisfaction of requirements and of the values at the basis thereof. Without prompt information there are no nor can there be bilateral relations between an outfit and its managers.

In order to organize and manage (it is all the same whether it be a small group or the outfit of a large enterprise, urban community or the country as a whole) it is necessary first of all to have a precise idea of the actual condition of the object. It must be honest, even if the truth about the actual state of affairs and people's mood derived by the investigation proves very unpleasant and cruel even. It must not be partial but systemic and integral. This is why there are no nor can there be closed zones for sociology.... It is important to know both sore points and growth points.

[Question] But once again here the work will come up against a shortage of personnel. Practical work with it is, as you say, inadequate. What about science?

[Answer] Also. We began training professional sociologists 2 years ago. And at only four universities -- Moscow, Kiev, Leningrad and Kharkov. Consequently, we will receive the first 100 young specialists in 1989! There are, additionally, "loners," it is true. They are being trained here, for example, in Novosibirsk University, in the Economic Cybernetics Faculty. Specialization in economic sociology begins as of the fourth year.

But here is the paradox: despite the complete absence of sociology personnel, assigning our "loners" is difficult. We have to dissemble and intercede for sometimes a "good boy," sometimes a "good girl". The difficulty involving assignments is seen by the students. And although their interest in our subject does not diminish, they are puzzled: "What is the point of us studying if subsequently no one needs us, apparently?"

[Question] The same question is often heard from future psychologists, philologists, historians, in short, from anyone studying the arts. There has evidently been a decline in the authority of the professions called upon to bring culture and foster morality.

[Answer] It is this that is awful. Twenty years ago a fellow of our institute defended a thesis on the development trends of higher education, comparing the situation in the Soviet Union and seven advanced countries. Those which not only attached great significance to higher education but also had their own strategies for its development were selected. The author of the thesis adduced a multitude of quantitative and structural indicators, and I saw in the latter, furthermore, to what he was calling attention. [paragraph continues]

Namely, that arts education in our country showed a clearly expressed trend toward decline. Even then it constituted only 4 percent of the entire compass of those attracted to the VUZ's. I fear that today this curve has fallen even further because the trend has not changed but, rather, intensified.

This is a policy which is a tribute to technocratic thinking and the idea that it is necesesary to make "pipes" and that any kind of "philosophizing" and "versifying" is rubbish and baubles. A lengthy explanation of the fallaciousness of such a principle is not, I believe, necessary. Throughout the world there is a growing interest in history and philosophy, an aspiration to comprehend the path traveled by mankind and a desire to learn to understand the regularities of this movement and see the mistakes.

There is a so-called arts faculty in Novosibirsk University. Fifty persons are registered per course, 25 historians and 25 philologists -- half-and-half linguists and literary historians. Counting the five courses: 250 students out of 5,000! And this is not a core institution training personnel for particular production -- it is a university, one of the biggest in Siberia.

I by no means wish to belittle here the significance of the natural and technical sciences.

[Question] Recently at a conference on human ecology in big cities I heard a teacher from Leningrad. This was a cri du coeur...! Of the formation of what kind of thinking can we speak of, she said, if the subjects constituting the essence of the "humanities" have been expelled from the school?! No formal logic, ethics, asthetics....In order to do away with the lacuna classes in subjects, together with the traditional ones, which are to shape an all-around personality -- from the juniors grades -- were introduced in the school which the speaker represented.

[Answer] A unique school.... The situation as far as teaching personnel is concerned is a direct consequence of the disregard for arts, primarily university, education.... And not only....

It is a long time since we have involved ourselves in libraries. Some are in terrible condition, others have simply been done away with. Scholars of Vladivostok are now struggling actively for their own main library and book repository. But quite recently even this unique collection was dotted around casual premises. The "blame" was put on 14th century folios for taking up exceedingly much space....

[Question] Given such an attitude, the books could be thrown into the cellars for the mice to feed on....

[Answer] Thinking about this matter, I come to the conclusion that we do not understand the complexity and systemic nature of society. [paragraph continues]

We are unwilling to understand that a disregard for arts education inevitably leads to dehumanization.

Any specialist teacher, whether a physicist, biologist or geographer and, even more, a teacher of history and literature should be primarily a widely educated and broad-minded person. He is, after all, not only teaching twice two is four, that Onegin opens the file of superfluous people, that such-and-such a battle occurred in such-and-such a year, he must, to speak in high style, mold sons of the fatherland...! But how is it possible to educate a person capable subsequently, irrespective of social standing and occupation, of thinking in social and state-minded fashion if he knows virtually nothing other than this "twice two"? And later we shall discuss ways of stimulating the "human factor"!

[Question] At a seminar recently which discussed questions connected with the reform of higher education we heard three principles in keeping with your statements -- humanitarian spirit, humaneness and methodological approach. It is necessary, for a start, to break down the barriers between faculties, ensuring the possibility o transition from one to another if only for students of the junior years. The status of the faculties is changing also: instead of the traditional specific-subject faculties -- physics, geography, history -- interdisciplinary and comprehensive faculties are proposed: technology, ecology, organization-management and architecture-city planning and even a faculty provisionally named anthropology, which would study the formation of the "human factor". Finally, they should be imbued with methodology -- science and the school of the new thinking essential to the representatives of all professions -- arts, natural science, technical. How do you, a professor at a traditional university, view such an experiment?

[Answer] In itself a splendid idea, although I cannot see how it will "fit" into the Procrustean bed of the sets of instructions and rules which exist currently. It will be difficult because it has not been "agreed"...! The consequences of such innovations are unpredictable. But this should not be feared, experimenting is not only possible but necessary. Vitally necessary. Otherwise we will lag behind the industrially developed countries, not catching the strengthening trends of modern higher education. It also must change.

Many people recently have begun to curse the youth. In do not know, perhaps I have been lucky, but I cannot complain about the younger generation. When they understand the purpose of their work and see that they are trusted, they give a splendid account of themselves: they show interest, read avidly and work with enthusiasm, sparing neither time nor efforts, even given unfairly low pay. It is certainly entirely a matter of what we older ones offer the youth. What we demand of them. To what we summon them.

LITHUANIAN PAPER CITED ON 'SOLZHENITSYN FUND'

LD131022 Moscow TASS in English 1007 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Vilnius January 13 TASS -- The so-called "Solzhenitsyn Fund" formed in the West is designed for use by war criminals, says the article headlined "Dirty Money for the Criminals" in the newspaper "TIESA" (TRUTH), which is issued in the capital of Lithuania (a Soviet Baltic republic).

The newspaper cites the statement by Valeriy Repin, former chief of the "Leningrad branch" of the fund, who is serving punishment for activities directed against the Soviet state. Repenting his criminal deeds, Repin pointed out in a statement addressed to the Soviet authorities that its aim was to grant material aid to persons convicted by the Soviet court for anti-Soviet activities and collecting all sorts of information.

This aim was served by a special questionnaire whose samples were sent with diplomatic mail through the U.S. Consul General to Leningrad by the members of the sabotage radio station "Liberty".

The questionnaire contains questions not only of a personal, but also of an intelligence character: About the defence industry, defence facilities, etc. Repin named the persons to whom he paid grants, among them Tkachuk, who served in the fascist troops during the war and was convicted for betraying his homeland, and Karpovich, who personally took part in the annihilation of peaceful civilians. Grants from the fund were also paid to Lithuanian war criminals, in particular former member of punitive troops Ionas Yuozas Leikus, who was earlier condemned for his part in the killing of inhabitants of Bajorai village.

It is absolutely clear, Repin pointed out, that the fund is not a charitable organization, that its activities are directed by the CIA wishing to cobble up in the USSR a certain opposition from among criminal elements.

By naming the fund after Solzhenitsyn, the newspaper TIESA said, its sponsors were trying to camouflage the fact that it is financed from the CIA funds designed for subversive activities against the Soviet Union.

SAKHAROV, BONNER INTERVIEWED BY SPANISH PAPER

PM091515 Madrid ABC in Spanish 6 Jan 87 p 29

[Interview with Soviet dissident Andrey Sakharov by Alberto Sotillo in Moscow date not given]

[Excerpt] [introductory passage omitted] [Sotillo] Could you tell us what your life was like during your confinement in Gorkiy, what your greatest difficulties were?

[Sakharov] The most difficult moments were when Yelena and I were separated. I was on hunger strike and they force-fed me. They kept us completely isolated for 3 months. If we sent a letter to our children, our message was changed completely to imply that we were still living together.

[Sotillo] What plans do you have for the future?

[Sakharov] In the future I am going to work at the Physics Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences. I will be working on the physics of elementary particles, cosmogony -- an area closely related to the former -- and safety in nuclear power. Of course, I feel obliged to continue my struggle for the release of all prisoners of conscience and respect for human rights. I will continue to devote myself to this cause, and not just by speaking generalities but by concerning myself, whenever I can, with each person, with each particular case, although there are too many. I believe that this is my duty to society.

[Sotillo] Were you able to maintain any scientific contact during your confinement in Gorkiy?

[Sakharov] I was able to receive scientific literature from the National Institute of Information [title as published] and from abroad. I was able to write six articles. It is not much but it is something. While I was hospitalized I could not write. But I believe that all this is very little; what worries me is that a scientist of our time is not made solely by reading journal articles.

[Sotillo] What do you believe were the reasons which facilitated your release?

[Sakharov] For many years my life has been a center of attention for everybody. Scientists, politicians, socially prominent people, and especially my children played an important role for my release. Moreover, over the past few years this struggle has had greater practical sense. People stopped demanding that I be allowed to leave the USSR in order to concentrate their efforts on my being able to return to Moscow.

Moreover, the Soviet Government is very interested in maintaining scientific contacts with the outside world, and the fact that I was being kept confined was an obstacle to their development because Western scientific bodies in many cases refused to maintain contact with Soviet bodies as long as I was kept in Gorkiy. I also believe that my release was due to some extent to the internal changes which have occurred in our country. Although these changes are incipient, something seems to be happening. However, I believe that my release was not mere propaganda but foms part of a broader process.

[Sotillo] Do you believe that an amnesty for the prisoners of conscience would strengthen or weaken Gorbachev's position?

[Sakharov] I would need to gain access to the secrets of the upper echelons of government in order to answer that question, but I believe that it is a step which our state must necessarily take. It would be a revealing sign that a real process of change has begun in the USSR. I am talking about the release of the prisoners of conscience, not of terrorists, collaborators with Nazism, or spies. I am talking about the release of those who have committed no violent action but who are suffering in prison or in labor camps solely for expressing ideals.

[Sotillo] Do you believe that there is any foundation for the argument of the difficulty of verifying a disarmament agreement with the USSR which the United States puts forward with respect to reaching an agreement on arms control or the banning of nuclear tests?

[Sakharov] I believe that the underlying problem lies in the fact that there is mutual distrust between the USSR and the United States. The causes of this distrust must be removed, then all the rest will be incidental. It is necessary to move toward opening up our society. In the first place, this means observing human rights -- the right to freedom of information and movement and to the supervision of the government by society.

[Sotillo] You have demanded the release of all prisoners of conscience in the USSR, but would you like to highlight any particular case which deserves special attention because of its special circumstances?

[Sakharov] The most courageous, the most honest, steadfast, for whose relase I will always press, must always be recalled. I wish to recall here Sergey Khodorovich, who has been confined for almost 90 days in a prison for the insane. Moreover, in April 1986 his sentence was extended by another 3 years... Because of his championship of human rights he is in Norilsk (northern Russia), in a labor camp for common prisoners. This is terrible. The directors of these camps or whoever often play at setting the common prisoners against the prisoners of conscience. Not to mention the cold...

[Sotillo] Have living conditions in the labor camps changed recently?

[Sakharov] It is difficult to express an opinion, but I believe so. Conditions seem to have worsened over the past year. [Answer ends]

Yelena Bonner added:

"Conditions have worsened this year. There is now a law whereby the camp administration can extend a prisoner of conscience's sentence indefinitely. Moreover, the way of life is harsher now. Prisoners are being deprived of the right to correspod or to receive parcels of food or clothing. They are being kept completely isolated from the outside world. Visits by relatives are being limited. Their rights are being increasingly reduced, if they can be said to have rights."

Sakharov spoke again:

"I would also like to draw attention to the conditions in which Altonyants -- one of the founders of the first human rights movement, around 1969 -- finds himself. Despite his advanced age, his sentence has also been extended. His relaese would only put into practice the policy proclaimed by the government.

"There are many who are in a very grievous situation, but especially dramatic is the case of the Yevsyukov family, who applied to emigrate to the West in 1979. They wrote a letter to Brezhnev, and the son asserted that he would not perform military service until he received a reply (no Soviet citizen can go abroad until 5 years after the military service has been performed). Then they confined him for 2 years in a labor camp.

"After this time they told him to give up his wish to emigrate, then everything could be resolved, but the family held fast to their resolve. This caused the son to be beaten, mistreated, and taken to a strict regime labor camp for common prisoners. His father was confined in a psychiatric hospital, where he was given strange drugs and treated for a schizophrenia from which he never suffered. The patients clashed with him. They even reached the point of physical confrontation... The situation in the psychiatric hospitals is terrible".

CHILDLESS TAX, MARRIAGE SUBSIDY CHANGES ANNOUNCED

LD131057 Moscow TASS in English 1050 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 13 TASS -- The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has passed a decree to exempt newly-married couples from the childless tax for one year from the date of registration. The decree will go into effect on February 1 this year. Simultaneously, the Council of Ministers of the USSR cancelled from February 1 cash compensations to persons who enter their first marriage. The funds thus saved will be used to offset the tax exemption for the newly-weds.

ECONOMIC ADVISER AGANBEGYAN INTERVIEWED

PM141521 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 10 Jan 87 p 17

[Undated interview with Soviet Academician Abel Aganbegyan by Harald Hamrin: "Radical Plans for New Reforms"]

[Text] Moscow — The so-called Gorbachev reforms apply not only to the Soviet economy in the narrow sense. They affect social, prices, and wages policy, they affect the "human factor," people's sense of responsibility, and the management of enterprises. It is much to early to start to talk now of a "qualitative breakthrough" in these areas. The sights have been set primarily on the 1990's.

Abel Aganbegyan analyzes the situation at the end of 1986. Less than 2 years have passed since Mikhail Gorbachev became the Soviet Union's leader. One year of the 12th 5-year economic plan (1986-90) has passed. Certain trends, certain goals can be distinguished. But as yet not all the pieces have fallen into place. As yet the overall pattern still cannot be distinguished.

But Abel Aganbegyan clearly knows how the pattern is intended to look. He is a scientist, but also a politician. He plays two roles in the Soviet Union of the "Gorbachev reforms."

Officially he is an economist, a scientist, and analyst. He takes part in the economic debate in journals and newspapers. He is editor ofthe economic-sociological journal EKO which is published by the Soviet Academy of Sciences' branch in Novosibirsk and which plays an important leading role in the debate. There, in Novosibirsk, he had — and presumably still has — his real base as unofficial leader of a group of reformist economists who for many years have advocated more or less openly (depending on the swings in the political climate) fundamental changes in the Soviet Union's economic system.

But he is also a politician — or, more correctly, a political adviser. He tried out this role for the first time 20 years ago. Then it was the so-called Kosygin reforms (in the Soviet debate people prefer to talks about the "1965 reforms"). One of the architects behind this uncompleted construction had the name Aganbegyan.

Now he is back where he left off then — and is keen to take a further step or more on the road of economic reform. In the summer of 1985 he was summoned, it is said, to Moscow by Gorbachev personally. He left his professorship in Novosibirsk, but naturally retained his membership of the Academy of Sciences. Gorbachev wanted him closer, as adviser and partner in discussions in the drafting of economic policy. According to stubborn rumors in Moscow he is in actual fact one of party leader Gorbachev's most prominent advisers — perhaps the most prominent — outside the official apparatus of power.

Naturally, Aganbegyan did not talk about this openly during the hour-long interview with DAGENS NYHETER's correspondent. He made do in his acccount of various elements of reform policy with saying time and time again that "I share this view completely." There are unwritten rules about how someone without any official power should behave. However, almost in passing it emerged during the interview that "last Saturday I spent 3 hours' with Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov. The conversation centered on the future course of reforms.

Aganbegyan said of what has already happened and what is planned to happen that the policy of reform is still only in its infancy.

"It is still too early to talk of qualitative progress," he said. "We can see a turning which lies ahead of us, but we are not yet there. We have taken the first steps, but we do not yet think that these are everything that we need. We need a solid base on which to stand, but we have still not created this base."

At another point he said that the whole of the current 5-year-plan -- that is, the period up to 1990 -- is needed just to "lay the foundation for the transformation" of economic policy. From his talk with Ryzhkov he revealed that there are "major ideas for an even more radical reform of the system of managing" the economy, "a desire to go further, not to stop."

This is also what he said that he himself had learned from the "Kosygin reforms" of the sixties. They were too limited, did not go far enough, did not embrace enough areas of the Soviet economy and of Soviet society. If you are going to launch a policy of reform you have to take great steps from the very beginning.

As Aganbegyan presents the "Gorbachev reforms" -- although he does not use the term himself -- they follow three main lines.

The first main line is like this, according to Aganbegyan: "Major structural changes in order to make the transition from extensive to intensive development, all linked to progress in the scientific-technical field."

This can be seen most clearly in a new investment policy. During the whole of the preceding 5-year plan (1981-85) investments in engineering manufacturing industries grew by a total of 30 percent. The corresponding figure for the first year (1986) of the new 5-year plan is 17 percent.

The first results have already started to emerge. While the renewal of the range of products in engineering manufacturing industry was a mere 3.1 percent in 1985, the rate of renewal in 1986 has already risen to over 6 percent and is estimated to rise further to 13 percent by 1990.

For example, within a limited period all car models will be replaced by new ones, as will all tractors and combine harvesters, 80 percent of all electrically driven factory machinery, 50 percent of all road-building machinery, and 75 percent of all machinery in the consumer and foodstuffs industries.

The guidelines are that the new machines must be 1.5 to 2 times more efficient and cheaper than their predecessors and that 12-18 percent less metal will be used in their construction.

"This is one line and it has had an immediate effect, even though this effect is not very great as yet," Aganbegyan said.

The second main line covers reforms of the system of economic management. In 1986 certain steps have been taken, including greater independence for enterprises, and these steps too have had some results. But, Aganbegyan said, the effect is not that great here either, for the new "system is not radical enough."

"Now we want to take another major step and make the transition to a bolder form of self-financing within enterprises, he said, pointing to a couple of large pilot enterprises. During 1987 all the enterprises under the control of five different ministries and some other individual enterprises within the areas covered by other ministries will make the transition to self-financing.

Aganbegyan stressed, however, that a prerequisite for the new system to be able to function as intended is that a thorough review of the whole policy of prices and of credit terms is carried out. However, the reform of price policy alone will require "2 to 3 years of preparation."

This is linked in turn to the widespread and complicated system of subsidies which has completely upset price mechanisms. Today subsidies on meat and milk products alone amount to 48 billion rubles, or 12 percent of the total national budget.

"For a number of products retail prices have remained largely unchanged for the last 20 years," Aganbegyan said. "These prices must change."

Aganbegyan also wants to do away with or reduce subsidies in other areas too, such as rent subsidies for apartments over a certain size. However, support for families with children must not be made worse (kindergartens, schools, school clothes, and so on). And a reform of the subsidy system must in any event be accompanied by compensatory wage increases. The issue is a sensitive balancing act with elements that are social and political dynamite.

Finally, the third main line covers what Aganbegyan calls the "social changes." More homes and schools must be built, new hospitals be constructed, and health care in general be improved. The service sector must be radically improved -- "it is very backward," he said coldly and soberly (and no one who has experienced the Soviet service sector is like to take a different view).

As Aganbegyan puts it, a fundamental component of the reforms is that the whole of the system of management for the Soviet economy and Soviet society must cease being merely "administrative" and instead become "economic" -- measures to stimulate the economy, pricing policy, wages, credit policy -- all these must replace the old 5-year plans' detailed regulations of the economy.

"Hitherto the consumer has been without rights," Aganbegyan said, quoting Gorbachev's statement made in 1985 about "the dictatorship of the producer over the consumer." Hitherto the consumer has had no choice; he has been forced to take what there was, for the allocation of services and products has been centralized.

However, Aganbegyan does not expect any radical improvement in the situation until the worst aspects of this society characterized by shortages [bristsamhaelle] have been dismantled.

"We take as our point of departure the idea that an economy characterized by shortages [bristekonomi] cannot be fully efficient," he said.

However, in the final analysis an enormous amount also depends on the "human factor." Old leaders -- political leaders and managers of enterprises -- who have slowed down developments must "retire or be replaced." The willingness to take responsibility must be rewarded.

Aganbegyan did not say so himself, but this is where one of the most serious obstacles to the real working of the "Gorbachev reforms" is to be found. Structural changes presuppose the willingness to shoulder responsibility, but this willingness in its turn presupposes structural changes.

It is like the hub and the spokes and the wheel which hold each other together mutually. But a push to set the whole thing in motion is also needed.

COSMO 1812 SATELLITE SAFELY LAUNCHED 14 JAN

LD141526 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1500 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow, 14 Jan (TASS) -- The latest artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1812, was launched in the Soviet Union today. It will continue space research.

It has been placed in an orbit with the following parameters: initial period of revolution -- 97.8 minutes; apogee -- 677 km; perigee -- 648 km; orbital inclination -- 82.5 degrees.

The apparatus aboard the satellite is working normally.

INTELSAT PROPOSED LAUNCH TO USE SOVIET ROCKET

OW101033 Tokyo KYODO in English 1024 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 10 KYODO -- The International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (Intelsat) plans to use a Soviet rocket to launch a large telecommunications satellite, informed sources said Saturday.

The sources said a provisional agreement to this effect was recently initialed by the Soviet Union and Intelsat, an 88-nation organization operating a global commercial satellite communications system.

Under the agreement, the Washington-based Intelsat will use an SL-9 rocket, also known as the Proton, for its sixth satellite scheduled to be launched in 1990 or 1991.

The agreement is in line with a decision by Intelsat at its executive board meeting in December to use the Soviet rocket to launch its commercial satellites.

Intelsat has paid 100,000 dollars to Moscow as a downpayment, the sources said.

The Proton, with a total length of about 59 meters, is capable of lifting satellites weighing 2.5 tons into orbits. Negotiations will begin soon on a formal agreement including a clause for the protection of secrets concerning the U.S. satellite, developed by Hughes Aircraft Corp., the sources said.

Intelsat decided to use the Soviet rocket after the United States suspended indefinitely its launching of commercial satellites following the space shuttle disaster a year ago, they said.

The accident forced Intelsat to call off its plan to launch three of five communications satellites by using the U.S. space shuttle.

Intelsat has now decided to use the European-developed Ariane rocket to launch three satellites instead of two as originally planned, the sources said. The Ariane rocket, developed by the European Space Agency, has monopolized the Western world's commercial satellite launch market since the space shuttle accident.

SATELLITE TRANSMISSION OF KRASNAYA ZVEZDA NOTED

PM081609 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Jan 87 Second Edition p 4

[Article by Colonel M. Rebrov, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA special correspondent: "To Readers Via Space"]

[Text] In ancient times there were no newspapers, and people obtained their information on events by quite different means. Assyrian legends tell of couriers who carried the commands of Semiramis "to every end of her realm." A postal system existed in Egypt which conveyed decrees "as far as Asia." In Russia troop commands and various news items were conveyed by "special people" until the institution of the Postal Department [Yamskoy Prikaz], of which Prince Pozharskiy was the first chief. In the 15th century dispatches from Novgorod to Moscow took 52 hours to reach their destination. They were considered "urgent." The post from Moscow to Riga took 11 days and to Vilnius, via Smolensk, -- 21 days. And, even later, news from St Petersburg reached the Far East and Kamchatka after a period of several months. Today, transmitting one page of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA to the country's most far-flung regions takes only just over 2 minutes. And many of our readers receive our newspaper via space. This New Year issue is no exception.

How? I approached Antonina Iosifovna Prilepina, chief of the USSR Ministry of Communications Newspaper Transmission Section, with this question and this is what I found out.

Let us begin by going back 2 decades, to the year 1965. At that time, after the launching of the "Molniya-1" communications satellite, tens of millions of Soviet people were able to watch television broadcasts from Moscow for the first time. This seemed almost a miracle. At that time....

Now of course, we have become used to this miracle. Technical progress in means of communication offers us more and more new possibilities for reducing the time taken to transmit newspapers to readers. For a long time the matrixes from which KRASNAYA ZVEZDA was printed were sent by train or by air. Time has changed this. Now the images of newspaper pages are transmitted from Moscow by communication satellite. Our KRASNAYA ZVEZDA flies through space to Arkhangelsk, Alma-Ata, Krasnoyarsk, Irkutsk, Khabarovsk, and other cities in the country.

Our own equipment -- the "Gazeta-2" system and its successor "Gazeta-3" -- makes it possible for virtually any population center in the country to receive the pages and print its own copies. Reception equipment and, of course, a printing press is needed for this....

A contour map of the USSR lies before me. On it are drawn the reception cities and the space communication means which are equipped for this work. This map is called "Circular Routes for the Transmission of Central Newspapers."

Yes, time has changed equipment. The traditional stations of the "Orbita" system, which were housed in special individual buildings and equipped with cumbersome antenna dishes, are being replaced by the cheaper and more compact "Moskva" stations. They are easily assembled from plant-manufactured units and can even be set up on the roof of a printing plant.

I also had occasion so see the "Gazeta-2" system. It is quite a complex piece of apparatus, despite its modest, simple exterior: several interlinked units filled with various mechanisms and electronic equipment. This is how the system works: A ray of light "reads" the newspaper pages. The image, transformed into electrical signals by photoelectric cells, is then transmitted by communication satellite directly to the reception point in the city concerned. There it is transferred to film, and then the printing press produces a stereotype from which the neccessary number of copies is printed. This is today. And tomorrow?

The Basic Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the Country approved by the 27th CPSU Congress state: "Newspapers must reach subscribers and the retail network the day they come off the press, as a rule, and the standard of technical equipment in communications enterprises must be improved for this purpose." What kind of equipment will replace the equipment used today.

Methods based on digital signal coding are being increasingly actively introduced in the practice of transmitting information through space. The point is that, in the process of being transmitted from earth to space and back to earth again, the signal is processed many times over at the various stages of retransmission. This means that interference inevitably builds up, which affects quality. The digital method is more promising. It is far less vulnerable to interference and, by using comparitively simple equipment, the initial quality of the signal remains excellent while being transmitted over vast distances.

But this is not the only thing. The other advantage is that replacing the complex signal with a series of simple digital impulses allows us to make extensive use of computers. How?

Traking across a newspaper line, a beam of light registers the dark areas and white spaces and transforms the letters and photographs into electric signals. They are then translated into digital language in accordance with a specific computer algorithm. These coded digital signals are sent to the satellite, which then transmits them to receiving aerials on earth.

Special equipment decodes these signals and accurately reproduces the original on film. And then the printing presses play their part. And if the postmen do not let us down, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA will reach the readers on time. There are shortcomings in this respect, unfortunately. This not only distresses those who read the newspaper but also those of us who "make" it.

Let us return, however, to a purely technical problem. Digital language will, of course, entail an improvement in the entire complex of apparatuses designed to ensure accurate, reliable, and uninterrupted communications, including the transmission of newspapers. To conclude this New Year report I would like to extend my good wishes to everyone who helps our KRASNAYA ZVEZDA to fly through space.

BRIEFS

NEW ANTARCTIC STATION -- Leningrad, 13 Jan (TASS) -- The rocky hills of the Larsemann Range on the western shore of Prydz Bay [Antarctic Commonwealth Bay] is the address of the new Soviet scientific station "Progress". After a 10-day survey of the region, continguous to the Amery Ice Shelf, a group of explorers landed from the diesel electric ship Vasiliy Fedoseyev and started fitting out a scientific township of 2 dozen prefabricated homes, field laboratories, and a diesel power plant.

This news was radioed to Leningrad today by the leaders of the 32d Soviet expedition to the South Polar continent. This summer the camp will act as a seasonal base for 100 geologists and geophysicists, and later it is planned to turn it into a station operating all the year round. The choice of the site is, in experts' opinion, especially fortuitous: In the step coastal ledge of the ice shelf there are wide crevasses, suitable for the free passge of tractor sledge trains with cargoes from the ship berths on the edge of the landfast ice to the station. Nearby there is a small level field capable of becoming a field airstrip. [Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1536 GMT 13 Jan 87 LD]

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE MEETING -- Ashkhabad January 13 TASS -- An expert conference of the United Nations scientific and technical development centre for combating droughts and desertification opened today in Ashkhabad, the capital of Soviet Turkmenia. The conference, which will continue till January 17, is attended by experts from Brazil, Britain, India, Canada, China, the Soviet Union, the United States, France, West Germany, and other countries. They will consider ways of combating the advance of deserts. The conference is to work out a strategy for long-term development of territories subject to droughts and desertification, and adopt a basic document and practical recommendations, to be submitted for consideration to the U.N. Interstate Committee for Science and Technology and sent to national centres and interested organisations in developing countries. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 2045 GMT 13 Jan 87 LD]

VEGA PROBES' OPERATIONS NORMAL -- Moscow January 14 TASS -- The Soviet interplanetary space probes Vega-1 and Vega-2 are in the third year of flight. Having completed an extensive research of the planet Venus and Halley's Comet, they continue moving in a heliocentric orbit between the orbits of Earth and Venus. The flight control centre has regular sessions of radio communication with the probes, in which the trajectories' parametres are measured, the work of the service and scientific equipment is monitored, and parametres of the interplanetary medium are measured with a view of studying the spread of disturbances brought about by active solar processes. According to telemetry measurement data, the onboard systems and the main scientific instruments are functioning normally. The scientific information obtained in flight is processed and studied. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1510 GMT 14 Jan 87 LD]

TV BROADCASTS TO ARCHANGEL -- The inhabitants of a remote rayon located on the border of Archangel Oblast have for the first time received First Program television broadcasts, via the Moskva satellite system. Assembly of a new station has been completed in (Deredinka), Vologda Oblast. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0000 GMT 12 Jan 87 LD]

VOROTNIKOV, ZAYKOV ATTEND CELEBRATION EVENT

LD131742 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 12 Jan 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpt] The 80th anniversary of the birth of the founder of practical cosmonautics, Sergey Pavlovich Korolev, was celebrated today in Moscow in the Hall of Columns of the House of Unions. On the platforms were Comrades Vorotnikov and Zaykov. [passage omitted] [Video shows Zaykov and Vorotnikov on platform with Tereshkova and other cosmonauts, and Army General Maksimov, USSR deputy minister of defense and commander in chief of Strategic Missile Forces]

GENERAL WRITES ON STRENGTHENING DISCIPLINE

PM141353 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Jan 87 First Edition pp 2, 3

[Article by Candidate of Historical Sciences Major General V. Luzherenko under the rubric "Combat Potential: Organization and Discipline": "The Concern of One and All"]

[Text] In the formulation of the Soviet Armed Forces' combat potential given by the 27th CPSU Congress the personnel's organization and discipline are indissolubly linked with such very important components of it as military skill, a high level of technical equipment, and the personnel's ideological staunchness and devotion to patriotic and international duty.

The role of discipline is so great we are fully justified in saying that without it there is no army, for an army without discipline if merely people with weapons.

Military discipline has its own criteria of quality. "The strictest discipline is needed in the army," V.I. Lenin pointed out. He repeatedly stressed that Soviet military discipline is based on a conscious attitude on the part of the motherland's defenders to the discharge of their military duty.

It is clear the demands on discipline grow together with the qualitative changes occurring in the Armed Forces in both people and equipment.

Our Army and Navy are today provided with first-class equipment and enormously powerful quick-acting weapons. Servicemen tend highly sophisticated missile complexes, nuclear power plants, and supersonic aircraft and handle computers. Just one wrong action or minor breach of an instruction could have the most grave consequences. Slackness and irresponsibility are incompatible with the nature of martial labor.

The need to master highly sophisticated equipment rapidly and the new criteria of the level of combat readiness, whereby time is measured literally in seconds and minutes; the collective weapons with which the Army and Navy are predominantly equipped and whose successful application depends on well organized, skillful, and coordinated action not only by individual servicemen but by whole subunits; the dynamism of control, particularly in combat and extreme conditions; the strenuous pace of military life and intensive nature combat training -- all these features rigorously demand that Army and Navy servicemen display the highest level of discipline, constant composure, and faultless efficiency.

Lenin's words concerning the need for the highest degree of military discipline are more topical today then ever. It is impossible for us to imagine maintaining a high level of combat readiness on the part of troops and naval forces guaranteeing the immediate repulse of any aggressor without a high level of organization and sound regulation order. Discipline is of enormous significance in modern battle. Success in it can only be expected when your troops are superior to the enemy both from a moral, political, and psychological standpoint and in terms of discipline and organization.

Quite naturally, today, when military matters are steadily becoming more complex, the very idea of discipline in the Army and Navy and its interconnection with combat readiness are being filled with new content. Discipline during combat duty and the training process, technical and technological discipline, and time discipline have all enriched our customary ideas of discipline. Discipline today is not simply one component of combat readiness but a determining factor in the whole tenor of the life and training and combat activity of troops and naval forces.

When discussing discipline, we are aware that its vehicle is man. And man is changing. The people coming into the Army today are not the same as those of 30, 20, or 10 years ago: They are better educated and have broader technical and cultural horizons while at the same time they are less prepared for the difficulties of service and less experienced in the practicalities of life. This must be taken into account by officers, warrant officers, and ensigns in work to train and educate subordinates.

Mindful of the large contribution that military discipline makes to the Soviet Armed Forces' combat potential, our party and its Central Committee, the USSR defense minister, and the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate demand that the state of discipline be radically improved and brought up to the level of modern requirements.

This necessity is also dictated by the fact that, as practice shows, there are units and subunits whose standard of discipline leaves something to be desired and whose commanders, political workers, and party and Komsomol organizations have not drawn the appropriate conclusions from the requirements of restructuring, including the work of strengthening military discipline.

Strengthening troop discipline helps to solve the task of further enhancing the standard of organization and order throughout our country set by the 27th CPSU Congress. In carrying out the truly revolutionary tasks of speeding up socioeconomic progress the party regards strengthening discipline as an important reserve for acceleration and restructuring that is capable of yielding a rapid and tangible return.

Our Army is not divorced from the people but is very closely linked with it, and all the processes taking place in the country are reflected in the Army. From this standpoint the measures taken by the party to enhance the level of discipline and organization in society exert both a direct and a indirect influence on strengthening discipline in the Army and Navy while, on the other hand, the efforts of commanders, political organs, staffs, and party and Komsomol organizations to instill a spirit of high discipline in Soviet servicemen exert a tangible and beneficial influence on the state of discipline in labor collectives joined by military servicemen on their discharge into the reserve.

When you analyze the reasons for shortcomings in discipline in a unit, you will see they are primarily the lack of appropriate responsibility for the state of discipline on the part of its commander, political workers, or other officers. [paragraph continues]

You can see for yourself an uncritical approach to the evaluation of discipline, the replacement of specific educational work with people by hollow appeals, all manner of meetings, and paperwork, and an inability to see work through to completion. You also see inefficient monitoring of performances and the fact that the importance of organizing troops' service, formation, and drill training has been downgraded.

All this is sometimes exacerbated by the fact that some officials try to cover up shortcomings when reporting to senior chiefs, staffs, and political organs on the state of discipline.

The desire to create for senior chiefs a semblance of well-being regarding discipline can only be described as window dressing and misrepresentation -- phenomena against which the party is engaged in an implacable struggle. The danger posed by them lies in the fact that the covering up of gross breaches of discipline inevitably results in the culprits' impunity, and this encourages them and others to indulge in new deviations from established procedures, leads to the creation of a vicious circle, undermines the moral authority of the commanders who have acted against their conscience, and hinders senior chiefs for their part in taking the necessary measures to instill appropriate order. Eventually the shortcomings grow worse and give rise to new and often even graver breaches of discipline.

On the othr hand, some senior chiefs, even in cases where the reports frm subordinates objectively reflect existing shortcomings, do not always take appropriate action. Instead of carefully and comprehensively examining the causes and circumstances giving rise to a gross breach of discipline, drawing their own definite conclusions, and helping the commander or political worker of the subunit where a violations has occured, they issue a routine order censuring them and demanding that things be "stepped up," "improved," "prevented"...

They sometimes begin to take these measure themselves only when something extraordinary occurs. In other words, intensive work to strengthen discipline is limited to a specific period. Such short-term campaigns are incompatible with the demand for constantly increasing efforts to strengthen military discipline.

Attempts by some commanders and political workers to resolve the problem of strengthening discipline in isolation from other problems of troops' lives and activity are also fundamentally mistaken and fall to yield any tangible results. It is possible to draw up extensive plans and carry out numbers measures of various kinds, but they will yield no practical results if the process of combat training, troops' service, and the personnel's everyday life and leisure in a unit or on board ship are not properly organized. Only a systematic and comprehensive approach to strengthening discipline, which presupposes a clear definition of measures of an ideological, educational, and organizational character and of the means whereby these measures will be implemented within the political education system and in conjunction with command and political cadres and sergeants when organizing the training process and establishing regulation order, and so forth, can yield tangible results.

What methods leading to the further strengthening and radical improvement of discipline are to be seen?

The commander is the chief, central figure in strengthening discipline and regulation order. The party, and this is recorded in the documents of the 27th congress, considers it essential to further strengthen sole responsibility [yedinonachaliye]. The commander is accountable for everything. His role in strengthening discipline and order is crucial. But sometimes what still happens is this. [paragraph continues]

"My main task is combat training, discipline and education are more the task of the political worker and party orgnaization," a commander will argue, telling the party committee secretary: "You investigate so-and-so's action and punish him severely." When it is he himself who should be primarily concerned with it.

Exactingness, rigor, and a consistent struggle for firm regulation of order are indispensable attributes and virtues for a commander. His crucial influence on the state of affiars and pesonal responsibility for the state of discipline as commander with sole responsibility must not be eroded. A commander must create in the subunit or unit an atmosphere of intolerance toward any deviations from regulation requirements: This is dictated by the interests of maintaining high combat readiness. He must bring all life, study, service, everyday activity, and relationships among personnel into strict line with the provisions of the regulations. This constitutes the ultimate basis of sound military discipline.

It is important to thoroughly grasp and understand that exactingness is a strict obligation rather than a voluntary matter for every officer, and must be displayed without any allowances of exceptions.

An officer's personal example has an enormous part to play in strengthening military discipline. An educator who knows how to be as severely exacting toward himself as he is toward his subordinates always serves as a worthy model for imitation. V.I. Lenin pointed out: "... If we are to conscientiously teach workers and peasants discipline, we have to begin with ourselves."

In the work of strengthening military discipline officers' closeness to people, their equable and comradely attitude to subordinates, and concern for their lives and recreation are, together with principled and just exactingness, of priceless importance. The closeness to people of a commander and political worker, combined with professional and moral authority, creates unwavering trust on the part of subordinates and spurs them to discharge their duty in the best possible way. That is why is it is so important to assesss in an incisive and principled way every instance of arrogance or rudeness by an officer, whatever his post.

Correctly organized work to strengthen military discipline naturally presupposes reliable and comprehensive knowledge of the real situation, the state of affairs in every military link. Careful analysis in turn presupposes not only understanding and considering the nature and number of offenses committed but also discovering the motives and grounds giving rise to them, evaluating the consequences, and determining urgent and effective measures to remove the causes of the negative phenomena and introduce advanced experience.

The officers of staffs and political organs have a substantial role to play in resolving this task. Unfortunately, quite often when studying the state of discipline they act as mere auditors, recorders, and suppliers of facts for reports, accounts, and briefings. However, it is precisely these officers, who generally have great experience of life, duty, and the party, who ought to set an example in thoroughly understanding the nature of phenomena, assessing them in a principled way, and formulating effective ways to rectify the state of affairs.

In defining ways of molding the new man, the party proceeds from the premise that qualities such as discipline and high morality are established on the basis of a communist world view. This is inculcated primarily in the process of ideological education work. We must use the entire system of political and military education to forge fighters prepared to execute an order at any cost, even at the cost of their own life.

Political studies with soldiers, sailors, sergeants, and warrant officers have an important role to play in strengthening discipline in the conditions obtained in our Army and Navy. The task is to ensure that their quality and effectiveness are enhanced and that innovatory elements are introduced. An innovation this year is the parallel study in groups of two disciplines. A topic from the curriculum, "Our Goal Is Communism," for example is studied today, the next class will study a topic from another section -- "Questions of Military, Moral, and Legal Education" -- followed by a general political topic again. This kind of alternation makes it possible to examine questions of military, moral, and legal education in political classes time and again throughout a soldiers's service rather than during one given period, as was previously the case.

In the struggle to radically improve discipline today a creative search for the most effective and appropriate means of exerting an educational influence on the personnel and an innovative approach are more necessary than ever. Practice shows some commanders and political workers do not bother to choose ways and means of ideological education work and carry over the same old formulas and outmoded cliches from year to year and plan to plan.

Restructuring enjoins is to be questing and daring. The more attentively we examine life and its problems, the closer we are to actual people, the better we know their interests, needs, and mood, and the more promptly and sensitively we respond to them, the more successful this quest is.

Life demands that commanders and political workers pay special attention to comprehensively analyzing relations among servicemen in the platoon, company, and battalion, focus their efforts on ensuring military collectives' all-around cohesion, establishing in them an atmosphere of friendship, troop and naval comradeship, mutual respect, and mutual assistance, and resolutely halting any instance of an uncomradely attitude as causing damage to the personnel's combat cohesiveness.

All the multifarious work by military cadres to strengthen discipline and all its related problems are to a considerable extent integrated in party organizations' activity. They must serve as the genera_ors of restructuring and encourage everything aimed at removing shortcomings and embodying advanced experience. The lessons of truth and resolute action which essentially determined the work of the 27th CPSU Congress and its uncompromising opposition to "areas beyond criticism," irresponsibility, and unhealthy phenomena of all kinds require all party organizations and their leaders to rethink a great deal and bring their actions into line with the congress' requirements.

Unfortunately, some party organizations lack a self-critical analysis of their activity to strengthen discipline and strict accountability for communists guilty of breaches and those who fail to ensure appropriate order in their assigned area.

The Army and Navy Komsomol has an extremely important role to play in resolving the task of strengthening discipline. It is the immediate duty of commanders, political workers, and party and Komsomol organizations to use young servicemen's energy and initiative in the struggle to establish firm regulation order and to ensure that every Komsomol member sets a personal example of good discipline.

Disciplinary regulations contain an article which gives a clear and precise reply to the question as to how a high level of military discipline is to be achieved and maintained. Three main areas of work are pinpointed: Imbuing military servicemen with a communist world view, high moral, political, and combat qualities and conscious obedience to commanders and chiefs; maintaining regulation order in units, on ships, and in subunits; and ensuring daily exactingness toward subordinates by commanders and chiefs, respect for their personal dignity, constant concern for them, and the skillful combination and correct application of measures of persuasion and compulsion.

It is the duty of every general, admiral, officer, warrant officer, ensign, sergeant, and petty officer to know these regulation provisions and to be guided by them.